

HOMAGE TO A 'MARTYR FOR PEACE'

Tears and Eloquence for a Fallen Hero



Yitzhak Rabin's coffin being moved into place Monday at Mount Herzl cemetery in Jerusalem before a throng of world leaders at the rites for the slain Israeli prime minister.

World Leaders Pay Tribute as Rabin Is Buried In Jerusalem

By Serge Schmemmann
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — Yitzhak Rabin was buried today before the greatest assembly of foreign leaders ever gathered in Israel, eulogized by President Bill Clinton as "a martyr for peace" and by King Hussein of Jordan as "a brother, a colleague and a friend."

In ceremonies that blended military precision, ringing tributes and profound emotion, Mr. Rabin's body was laid to rest under the pines and cypress trees of Mount Herzl, the burial ground of Israel's military and spiritual heroes. The 73-year-old prime minister was assassinated Saturday by a right-wing extremist fired with rage by the process Mr. Rabin had initiated to return occupied lands to Palestinian rule.

Tears flowed freely, especially when King Hussein, in red-checked kaffiyeh, eulogized his erstwhile political and military foe in eloquent and heartfelt terms, likening Mr. Rabin's legacy to that of his own grandfather, King Abdullah, who was assassinated in Jerusalem in 1951 by Islamic militants before the eyes of the young Prince Hussein.

"We are not ashamed nor are we afraid, nor are we anything but determined to continue the legacy for which my friend fell, as did my grandfather in this very city when I was with him and but a boy," said the king, who lost Jerusalem and the West Bank to Israel in the 1967 Middle East war, and made peace with Israel last year.

More tears flowed as Mr. Rabin's granddaughter, Noa Ben-Artzi Philosof, freckled and red-haired as he was in his youth, recalled a warm and loving grandfather. "Others greater than I have already eulogized you but none of them ever had the pleasure that I had to feel the caress of your warm, soft hands, to merit your warm embrace that was reserved only for us, to see your half-smile that always told me so much," she said, fighting for control.

The image of King Hussein and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, along with representatives from the Arab states of Qatar, Morocco and Oman, paying tribute to an Israeli leader on the Jerusalem hilltop where Theodor Herzl, the founder of Zionism, lay, spoke volumes of the changes in the region from the days when Arab leaders spoke of Israel only as a "Zionist entity."

Even more stunning was the gathering of so many presidents, kings and premiers in a land that once had to struggle for recognition. Monarchs, princes, presidents, chancellors, prime ministers and other high dignitaries from 80 countries sat among the 5,000 guests at the funeral, the largest gathering of the high and mighty in the history of the Middle East.

President Clinton and his wife, Hillary, led a delegation that included two former presidents, three secretaries of state, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and 40 members of the United States Congress. England was represented by both Prime Minister John Major and Prince Charles. France by President Jacques Chirac, Germany by Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Russia by Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin, the Netherlands by Queen Beatrix, the United Nations by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali.

The tribute was as much to the state of Israel as to Mr. Rabin himself, the first native-born Israeli prime minister, whose career paralleled the passage of Israel from wars of survival to the search for peace.

"Today, my fellow citizens of the world, I ask all of you to take a good hard look at this picture," said Mr. Clinton, taking the podium after King Hussein.

"Look at the leaders from all over the Middle East and around the world who have journeyed here today for Yitzhak Rabin and for peace. Though we no longer hear his deep and booming voice, it is he who has brought us together again here, in word and deed, for peace."

But Mr. Clinton and other speakers also pointed to the danger to the process that Mr. Rabin had initiated

Arab Dignitaries in Jerusalem: Many Symbols of Hope

JERUSALEM — Arab leaders made a powerful gesture of reconciliation toward Israel on Monday at the funeral of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

They put aside their differences over the disputed city of Jerusalem — the most sensitive on the Arab-Israeli agenda — to pay their last respects to a fallen peacemaker.

Four Arab states — Jordan, Egypt, Oman, Qatar — as well as the Palestinians sent delegations to the funeral despite the political risk that they would be criticized at home for indirectly recognizing Israeli claims to all of the city.

"It has a huge significance. I had to pinch myself

to believe what I am seeing," said a government spokesman, Uri Dromi, noting the Arab robes and headaddresses that dotted the gallery of dignitaries.

"It's terrible that it takes such a tragedy to bring them here, but I don't believe anyone in Israel can be indifferent to this."

King Hussein of Jordan made a stirring call for other Arabs to put aside their fears of making peace with Israel and join the "peace camp."

"Let's not keep silent. Let our voices rise high to speak of our commitment to peace for all time to come," he said in a call aimed at other Arab states that have held back from the peace process.

"We are not ashamed, nor are we afraid, nor are

we anything but determined to conclude the legacy for which my friend fell as did my grandfather in this very city when I was with him as but a young boy," he said.

Hussein was a teenager when his grandfather, King Abdullah, was assassinated on the steps of the Al Aqsa mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem, then under Jordanian rule, because he was seen as building too close ties with Israel.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, himself a target of an attempted assassination earlier this year, said in his eulogy that "the best memorial to Yitzhak Rabin is to continue what he started, which is the peace process."

Although he stressed that his presence was a condolence call and not an official visit, Mr. Mubarak impressed Israelis with his warmth, including his granting a traditional Arab kiss on both cheeks to the Israeli president, Ezer Weizman.

Mr. Mubarak said he saw similarities between Mr. Rabin's assassination and the killing of his predecessor, Anwar Sadat, who was the first Arab leader to visit Jerusalem in 1977.

"I don't consider this a visit, coming here for condolences to Mr. Rabin, a man of peace who made a big effort on the most difficult issue," the Pales-

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Brother of Confessed Assassin Is Detained as an Accomplice

By Joel Greenberg
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — The police said Monday that they were holding the brother of the accused killer of Yitzhak Rabin as a suspected accomplice in the assassination.

At a hearing in the Tel Aviv Magistrate Court, Yigal Amir, a 25-year-old university student, confessed to the killing but insisted that he had acted alone.

At a second hearing, his brother, Hagai Amir, 27, admitted that he had helped make one of the fatal bullets, but denied that he had known in advance of the assassination plans. He said he had simply altered bullets to make them more accurate, but a police officer said he had fashioned a more-lethal bullet, known as a dum dum.

Police officials said they were looking into possible links between the Amirs and radical Jewish groups such as Kahane Chai, or Kahane Lives, a small group of followers of the virulently anti-Arab rabbi, Meir Kahane, who was gunned down in New

York City in 1990. The police gave no specific evidence to back up their suspicions, although Kahane Chai has a record of anti-Arab violence, and two of its members were convicted of killing a Palestinian.

Binyamin Kahane, the group's leader and son of the slain rabbi, denied any links to the Amirs and said they were not members of his movement. "We have nothing to do with this," he said in an interview.

"The authorities are trying to blame us for everything," he said, "because they've declared war on us."

At his hearing, Yigal Amir rattled off a catalogue of right-wing grievances against Mr. Rabin and his policies and admitted to the assassination.

"I acted alone, but maybe with God," he said. He argued that Jewish law permitted killing to prevent the handover of land to the enemy.

Under an accord signed last September between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, much of the West Bank is to come under Palestinian self-rule.



Yitzhak Rabin's grandson, Yonatan, a paratrooper, hugging his sister, Noa, at the funeral.

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Alleged Russian Corruption In Bosnia Worries NATO

By John Pomfret
Washington Post Service

ZAGREB, Croatia — Plans to incorporate Russian troops into a NATO-led force that would move into Bosnia-Herzegovina in the event of a peace agreement are raising concerns among UN and Western officials because of evidence of corruption by Russian soldiers serving in the

former Yugoslavia and their reputation for pro-Serbian bias.

The possibility of Russian participation in such a force increased last month when top U.S. and Russian officials agreed in Kansas to establish a special multinational military force to help reconstruct Bosnia should a deal be struck at peace talks being held in Dayton, Ohio.

Defense Secretary William J. Perry and his Russian counterpart, General Pavel S. Grachev, did not resolve differences over how to integrate Russian combat troops into a separate NATO-run peacekeeping operation; the Russians have agreed to a peacekeeping role but have rejected serving under NATO command.

Corruption among soldiers in the UN peacekeeping mission in the former Yugoslavia always has been a problem, and troops from the former Soviet Bloc nations are the most active in black marketeering, running prostitution rings and facilitating military maneuvers and resupply operations by the Serbs.

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AGENDA

U.S. May Delay Lubbers Decision

Dow Jones	Trib Index
Down 11.56	Down 0.33%
4814.01	124.12
The Dollar	Mon. close
New York	1.413
DM	1.417
Pound	1.5804
Yen	103.35
FF	4.8915

The United States indicated Monday that it would withhold approval for Raud Lubbers's candidacy to become NATO secretary-general in a meeting set for Tuesday because other contenders should be considered.

"We have not made a decision who to support yet," a senior U.S. official told reporters.

He added, "I don't see how there is going to be a decision tomorrow. It is still really fluid." (Page 5)

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Desperation for U.S. Leaders

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Bhutto in Tehran

EUROPE
France Charges Algerian

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Laborer

A Staple Fades in China
Cabbage Is a Casualty of Better Times

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — Buying cabbage is a rite of autumn and, like falling leaves, a sign that the haze of coal dust and the cold, dry winds of winter are on the way.

In the first days of November, families buy a season's supply of cabbage and hang it on clothes lines, soak it in vats of water or stack it in the cool of doorways before eating it boiled or adding it to dumplings, bread, soup and rice dishes.

But now the leafy vegetable that has long occupied the place of honor at the Chinese wintertime dinner table is suffering the worst indignity: It is being spurned.

Every year at this time, trucks from the countryside make the pilgrimage from the cabbage patches to city streets, where they dump giant mounds of cabbage. With the heads piled high, customers line up and cart away as much as 1,000 pounds each, enough to last a family the entire winter.

But as greenhouses become more common and salaries rise, the Chinese are buying less cabbage, shifting their attention and money to the wider variety of veg-

etables now commonly available throughout the winter: spinach, garlic shoots, broccoli, eggplant, cauliflower, tomatoes.

"Living standards are rising, so cabbage is no longer a main dish, it's a side dish," Han Yiwen, a store manager, said as he stood amid cabbages stacked chest high, eight feet across and stretching for 30 feet or so down the street. "Now people just have it for a change."

Chinese also are eating more meat and dairy products as living standards improve. One study, according to Health Daily, said the average person's consumption of vegetables has fallen by half while meat consumption has increased 81 percent and egg consumption has doubled.

Many older Beijing residents feel a sentimental attachment to cabbage and a sense of loss as its popularity declines. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, cabbage creativity was a necessity because there was little meat, fish or other vegetables available.

"You can do anything with it," said Meng Yulan, who has been selling cabbage for 25 years. "Dumplings, stuffed bread

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Newsstand Prices	
Bahrain	1,000 Din
Cyprus	C. £ 1.00
Denmark	14.00 D Kr.
Finland	12.00 F Mk.
Gibraltar	£ 0.85
Great Britain	£ 0.85
Egypt	E.P. 5000
Jordan	1,250 JD
Kenya	K Sh. 150
Kuwait	600 Fils
Malta	45 c.
Nigeria	110.00 Naira
Oman	1,250 Rials
Qatar	1,000 Rials
Saudi Arabia	R. 1.00
Spain	10.00 Ptas.
S. Africa	R10 + VAT
U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
U.S. M. (Eur.)	\$ 1.20
Zimbabwe	Zm. \$20.00



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Rabin's Killing / A Cherished Myth Shattered Again

Political Fratricide Is as 'Israeli as Hummus Pie'

By Glenn Frankel
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — When President Anwar Sadat of Egypt was assassinated by Islamic extremists in 1981, Israelis tempered their horror at the deed with a sense of fatalism. What else could one expect of Arab society? many Israelis asked. They believed that one of the fundamental differences between Israel and its neighbors was that while Arabs often killed other Arabs, a Jew would never take the life of a fellow Jew.

Israeli Jews saw themselves as a family — raucous and unruly and at times angry, but ultimately united. And as in any large family, the rhetoric was always heated and sometimes violent. But it was only words. Fratricide was the ultimate taboo.

On Saturday, the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by a gunman investigators describe as a Jewish extremist shattered that taboo. And although most of the violence against Israelis through the years has been committed by Arabs, this would not be the first time in Israel's history that a Jewish leader has been gunned down by other Jews.

Some, but not all, of those rare assassinations have been carried out by far-right extremists, some have led to national trauma and soul-searching, and some are still disputed decades after they occurred. And the law school student who the police say has admitted killing Mr. Rabin is not a disturbed loner in the tradition of Lee Harvey Oswald or John Hinckley but a man from a movement with deep roots in Israel's turbulent past.

"This guy was as Israeli as hummus pie," said the author Zeev Chafetz. "He's not a lone anything — he's exactly a product of the extremist Orthodox-nationalist culture that he came from. He was trained by his rabbis, and as far as I'm concerned he pulled the trigger for them. Sure, he's insane, but they're insane, too. This is not Lee Harvey Oswald. He didn't come from nowhere. He's the boy next door."

Much of the violence among Jews over the years has stemmed from fierce competition between the socialist-oriented Labor movement led by David Ben-Gurion and the smaller, more militaristic Revisionist movement of Zeev Jabotinsky and Menachem Begin. The nature of the conflict changed after the Israeli triumph in the 1967 Middle East War, when secular ultranationalists and deeply religious extremists combined to forge a religious-nationalist alliance — a combination that ultimately produced true believers such as Yigal Amir, held as Mr. Rabin's assassin.

The first recorded assassination in the small Jewish community of British-ruled Palestine was the 1924 killing of Jacob Israel de Haan, spokesman for a small ultra-Orthodox re-

ligious party. He was gunned down while leaving a synagogue on Jaffa Street, West Jerusalem's main thoroughfare. His killers were never caught, but they were widely believed to have operated under orders from the Haganah, the secular paramilitary organization that was the precursor to the modern Israeli Army. Leaders of the Zionist establishment considered Mr. de Haan dangerous because of his opposition to the growth of the Zionist movement in Palestine.

The next victim was a Labor movement leader named Haim Arlosoroff, gunned down in front of his wife on a Tel Aviv beach in June 1933. At the time, Mr. Arlosoroff was seeking to arrange the emigration of Jews from Germany and the transfer of Jewish property to Palestine. The suspects in the killing were two members of a far-right nationalist group opposed to his moderate positions. They were tried by British authorities but acquitted for lack of evidence.

Mr. Arlosoroff became a celebrated martyr — there is a street named after him in every major Israeli town — and the Labor movement invoked his killing as proof of the right wing's fanaticism. It remained such a sore point that 49 years later, Mr. Begin, who was then prime minister, appointed a commission of inquiry to exonerate his own movement from involvement in the assassination. Its 1985 report declared there was no convincing proof against the two suspects but could not determine who the real killers were.

But the right had its own ways of dealing with extremists. Eliahu Glati, a charismatic gunman with the small underground group known as Fighters for Israel's Freedom, or the Stern Gang, began plotting the assassination of Mr. Ben-Gurion and other moderate Zionist leaders in 1943. Instead, Mr. Glati himself was shot in the back on a beach south of Tel Aviv by one of his own colleagues. The assassination order was initiated by the group's leader and Mr. Glati's close friend, Yitzhak Shamir, who later became prime minister and who acknowledged his role in the killing in his recent memoirs. Some still contend Mr. Shamir pulled the trigger, although he has denied it.

Despite the unwritten rule that Jews did not attack other Jews, Mr. Ben-Gurion's supporters cooperated with British security forces in hunting down members of the Stern Gang during World War II. After Israel gained its independence in May 1948, Mr. Ben-Gurion, then the prime minister, ordered Mr. Rabin, then a young military commander, to fire on the Al-Halana, an arms ship bringing weapons to Mr. Begin's dissident movement. Jew fought Jew for 10 hours off the Tel Aviv shore, and 15 people were killed before Mr. Begin's forces surrendered. Forty-seven years later, the two sides still debate that episode.

There have been other scattered acts of fratricidal violence in the years since. The most traumatic was the killing of a peace



Yigal Amir, right, being escorted into a Tel Aviv court Monday for arraignment.

advocate, Emil Grunzweig, by a grenade thrown into a crowd during a demonstration against government policy in Lebanon in February 1983.

The Grunzweig killing, like the killings of other Jews over the years, caused great national anguish, and it contributed to the government's decision to pull back from its ill-fated Lebanon invasion. But while in the past the acts of violence against Jews generally brought Israelis together and tended to obscure the deep divisions between them, recent attacks have served to highlight those conflicts. With each assassination, Israelis have grown more angry and uncertain, and the rhetoric has grown more violent and extreme.

The Six-Day War in 1967 was a watershed in the growth of Israeli extremism. Deeply religious Jews saw the hand of God in the deliverance of Israel from its Arab enemies, the restoration of a united Jerusalem and the conquest of the West Bank. The biblical land known as Judea and Samaria where Judaism has its deepest roots. The war's aftermath spawned the movement that has established more than 100 Jewish settlements with more than 120,000 residents over the past two decades. And it spawned a new kind of fa-

natism that melded messianic fervor and nationalism in a way that even rightists such as Mr. Shamir labeled as potentially dangerous. Radicals, such as Rabbi Meir Kahane, who preached hatred against Arabs but saved their most vitriolic rhetoric for fellow Jews, arose. Any Jew who stood in the way of Israeli sovereignty over the biblical land of Israel was a traitor to the Jewish people and deserved to die, these radicals insisted. Noting the blend of religion and radicalism, the peace advocate Abraham Burg, an Orthodox Jew, said Sunday that Mr. Rabin's murder "is not a political murder — it is a religious murder."

Still, after nearly five decades of hostility with the Arab states around their borders and the Palestinians within, Israeli security officials appeared far more concerned about — and prepared to deal with — an attack by Arab extremists than by a fellow Jew.

"We never thought it could happen here," said a retired diplomat, Gideon Raphael. "Because our mind was too much geared against violence from across our borders and against our Arab adversaries, our security organs were never prepared to take strong measures against our own people."

"Israel has been struck as if by a meteor," he added. "But, of course, it's not a meteor from outer space. What happened grew up right here."

Leading Centrists Throw Support to Walesa in Runoff

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WARSAW — Three former prime ministers and two ex-foreign ministers, all highly respected centrist politicians, bolstered President Lech Walesa's re-election chances with an endorsement Monday.

The statement from Mr. Walesa's former Solidarity allies, most of whom have been at odds with him over his confrontational style and authoritarian bent, came a day after a dynamic 41-year-old ex-Communist edged the incumbent in first-round presidential voting.

Six years after Poles toppled Communist rule, resistance remains strong to restoring to power a party with a totalitarian past.

The former Communist, Alexander Kwasniewski, won 36.51 percent of the vote to Mr. Walesa's 32.31 percent Sunday, leading a field of 17 candidates, according to the PAP news agency's unofficial vote tallies from 40 of the 49 provinces. The two will meet Nov. 19 in a runoff.

"It is extremely important for Poland that the president be a politician who will effectively act for strengthening independence, including swift entrance into NATO and the European Union," the five politicians said in a statement.

"He must be internationally respected. Lech Walesa is such a politician," said the three former prime ministers, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, Hanna Suchocka, and Jan Krzysztof Bielecki, and two former foreign ministers, Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Andrzej Olechowski.

All five are among the best-known and respected Polish politicians at home and abroad and have made major contributions to the country's post-Communist democratic development.

Mr. Walesa, 52, and Mr. Kwasniewski are battling for the political center, a constituency to which the five politicians who released the letter have strong appeal.

To win the runoff, the two candidates need to woo supporters of the Solidarity-rooted centrists eliminated in the first round Sunday. In all, candidates whose political careers grew out of the union movement won 60 percent of the vote.

Mr. Kwasniewski leads the party that regrouped after the Communists dissolved their cadres in 1990. But he says he supports NATO and European Union membership just as strongly as Mr. Walesa.

Mr. Walesa took up his rival's challenge to take part in a televised debate before the runoff.

The former Solidarity leader said in a radio interview that the debates with Mr. Kwasniewski, the head of the main governing party, "would demonstrate to the nation the nonsense of his philosophy."

The clash between the president, with his convoluted speech, and the articulate economist will have the nation's electorate glued to their TV sets. (AP, Reuters)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Cold Triggers Paris Pollution Alert

PARIS (Reuters) — Health authorities advised children and old people to stay indoors Monday as Parisians turned on home heaters on mass during the season's first cold spell and triggered an air pollution alert.

The authorities said that stable, clear weather without wind was preventing high sulfur dioxide levels from dissipating. Air pollution reached Level 2 on Monday. At Level 3, the authorities are authorized to order cuts in traffic or heating levels.

Iberia and Avia Cancel Flights

MADRID (AFP) — The Spanish airlines Iberia and Avia were forced Monday to cut more than half their scheduled flights because of a 24-hour strike by pilots.

The two state-run carriers canceled 340 of 608 flights because of the continuing action by pilots. The work stoppage against the financially ailing Iberia came as part of a broader strike threat, which could see as many as eight flying days lost in the first half of November. Avia pilots plan four separate strike actions this week.

8 Are Killed on Icy Moscow Streets

MOSCOW (Combined Dispatches) — Cold weather turned Moscow streets into icy death traps over the weekend, with at least eight people killed in 48 accidents, the Interfax reported Monday.

Meanwhile, in Romania, snow and winds shut most airports, and drifts up to 50 centimeters (20 inches) high blocked national roads, the Department of Transportation said.

A Rush in China for Airline Tickets

BEIJING (Reuters) — The number of travelers on China's airlines has risen by 10 percent since the Railroad Ministry more than doubled prices for some train tickets in September, the Beijing Daily said on Monday.

Ticket sales at the main Xidan Air China office multiplied several times in the first few days after the increase in train fares, it said.

Correction

Because of a photo agency error, a caption in Monday's edition incorrectly identified as Yitzhak Rabin the Israeli officer who was entering Jerusalem in 1967 beside General Moshe Dayan. The soldier pictured was General Ugi Narkis.

'Baubles and Bangles,' as Usual, Clutter U.S. Budget Bill

By Robert Pear
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — While huge programs like Medicare and Medicaid have been the focus of the congressional budget debate, many smaller provisions have been added to the budget bills for the benefit of interests like oil companies, ski resort operators, restaurants, football coaches and some coal companies.

These small items are being debated as urgently as the larger Republican plan to balance the budget as negotiators from the House and the Senate try to thrash out a compromise. With time for debate strictly limited in the Senate and with few amendments allowed on the floor of the House, the budget bill has become a vehicle for all sorts of proposals only tangentially related to the goal of saving money.

The bill is so vast that lawmakers themselves often have no idea who sponsored a particular provision, who would benefit and who might get hurt.

"We still don't know everything we were voting on," said Representative Anthony C. Beilenson, a California Democrat who has been in Congress for 19 years.

One provision of the House bill would, for the first time, allow oil from the North Slope of Alaska to be exported.

The main beneficiary of this change would be British Petroleum, and the official justification for the proposal, provided by House Republicans, reads word for word like testimony by Linda L. Adamany, senior vice president of the BP Oil Shipping Co., which is an American subsidiary of British Petroleum.

Under another provision of the bill approved by the House of Representatives, dozens of companies would be relieved of their legal obligation to help finance health benefits for retired coal miners.

Owners of recreational motorboats would benefit from a provision in the Senate version of the budget bill that would suspend a tax on fuel used by such boats.

This proposal was put into the bill at the behest of Senator John H. Chafee, Republican of Rhode Island, and Senator John Breaux, Democrat of Louisiana. Boats and marinas are big businesses in both states.

The House bill would impose a federal income tax on Indian casinos, which are now generally exempt from such levies. Regular commercial casinos have urged Congress to make such

'Democrats did do it, and that's one of the reasons we were kicked out.'

a change, saying the exemption gives Indian tribes an unfair advantage.

Guy Vander Jagt, a former Michigan congressman, prevailed on his friends in Congress to provide tax benefits for a retirement plan created for members of the American Football Coaches Association.

"It's an injustice and a travesty if Congress can't function well enough to get this done," said Mr. Vander Jagt, a Republican.

He said that many coaches had trouble qualifying for college pension plans because "the average tenure of a college football coach is less than three years."

The House version of the budget bill would significantly reduce the tax liability of many restaurants. In 1987 Congress passed a law requiring restaurants to pay Social Security taxes on all tips received by their employees.

In 1993 Congress gave them a tax credit for part of these taxes. But the Internal Revenue Service's interpretation of the 1993 law could force restaurants to pay taxes going back to 1988, with no credit to offset the cost. The restaurant industry never liked the idea of paying taxes on tips. It disagrees with the IRS position, and is now seeking relief from its friends in Congress.

Also scattered through the bill are benefits for sheep farmers, funeral homes and a few semiconductor companies started in the mid-1980s.

Representative Charles E. Schumer, Democrat of New York, said that the budget bill was "full of hidden goodies."

Another Democrat, Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, called them "baubles and bangles" for special interests.

Republicans said that the Democrats had given favors to their friends when they controlled the Congress. And Mr. Schumer agreed, saying, "Democrats did it, and that's one of the reasons we were kicked out."

Ed Gillespie, a spokesman for Representative Richard K. Armitage of Texas, the House majority leader, said the Democrats' criticism reflected a fundamental difference of philosophy.

Republicans, Mr. Gillespie said, believe that they are serving the public interest, not special interests, when they protect private property and help private industry so that it can create more jobs.

Pressing Zia, 50,000 Protesters Block Bangladesh Transport

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

DHAKA, Bangladesh — More than 50,000 protesters blocked trains, buses and ferries Monday to press for Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's resignation and early elections.

Witnesses said at least 21 people were hurt when the police fired tear gas and used batons to remove opposition street activists blocking a major street near the Dhaka University campus. After about 30 minutes of clashes, the

students were evicted, witnesses said. In another incident, at least 15 people were injured when the police used batons and fire hoses to disperse opposition activists who hurled homemade bombs in Dhaka's Mahabhal area, witnesses said. Five people were hurt in clashes in other parts of the city.

The opposition, led by Sheikh Hasina Wajed's Awami League, had called for nationwide blockades to back demands for Begum Zia's resignation and new

elections under a caretaker government.

Begum Zia, who has rejected the demands, urged the public to resist the boycott. At a rally Sunday in the western river port town of Chandpur, she called for "mass resistance" against blockades and strikes.

In return, Sheikh Wajed accused Begum Zia of "pushing the country toward confrontation."

Officials of the state-run Bangladesh Railways said that several trains were

stopped by pickets and that some railcars derailed Monday near Dhaka after tracks were removed. No injuries were reported.

Interdistrict buses were halted, and the United News of Bangladesh news agency quoted ferry owners as saying their services also were affected.

Thousands of police and paramilitary forces patrolled Dhaka streets. Offices, businesses and banks were open, but most schools were shut. (AP, AFP)

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American Samoa	633-1000	Costa Rica	99-383-0113	Ireland	1-800-55-2001	Nicaragua (Managua)	171
Anguilla (direct phone)	90	Cyprus	080-900-01	Israel	177-103-2727	Norway	800-19877
Antigua (pay phone)	1-800-366-4663	Czech Republic	080-087-187	Italy	173-1877	Peru	115
Argentina	001-800-777-1111	Denmark	800-1-0877	Jamaica (Jamaica)	875	Poland	176
Australia	1-10-153	Dominican Republic	1166-777	Jamaica (other)	5	Philippines (DPTI and other)	105-011
Australia (other)	1-800-871-10	Ecuador	999-171	Japan (all other)	1-800-877-8000	Philippines (PSTN)	105-011
Australia (other)	1-800-871-10	Egypt (Cairo)	356-4777	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	Philippines (PSTN)	105-011
Austria	022-903-016	El Salvador	191	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	Poland	176
Bahamas	1-800-299-2111	Finland	000-800-100-3	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	Portugal	0307-14-877
Bahamas	800-777	France	9900-1-0284	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (BT)	1-800-877-8000
Barbados	1-800-877-8000	Germany	0130-0013	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Belgium	0800-10014	Greece	008-001-411	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Belize	1-800-423-0877	Haiti	510-1366	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
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Brazil	0800-4016	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
British Virgin Islands	1-800-877-8000	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Bulgaria	00-800-1010	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Bulgaria	1-800-877-8000	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Canada	1-800-366-4663	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Cayman Islands	00-900-117	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Chile	108-15	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
China	980-130-010	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Colombia	0800-001-0123	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877
Costa Rica	99-383-0113	Hong Kong	800-1877	Japan (JCI)	000-55-877	United Kingdom (other)	020-887-0877

THE AMERICAS

Pursuers
Redraw
Portrait
Of BomberBy David Johnston
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Seven weeks after a manuscript by the serial bomber known as the Unabomber was published, investigators say they have been deluged with thousands of leads from the public, but are no closer to solving the baffling 17-year-long string of bombings.

They are, however, revising important assumptions about the background and motives of the criminal whose 16 bombs have killed 3 people and have wounded 22 others.

Interviews with investigators and academics who are closely following the case suggest that the 35,000-word Unabomber manuscript is the work of a man whose profile more closely fits that of a serial murderer than that of a domestic terrorist with a political agenda.

While there is little consensus about the bomber's education, some investigators said the manuscript has led them to raise serious questions about their initial assumption that the bomber studied mathematics or computer science or the history of science — a hypothesis that led to an extensive but so far fruitless investigation at universities in Illinois, Utah and California.

Some investigators and academics now suspect that the elusive bomber may have intellectual roots in the less-exact world of the social sciences, like sociology or anthropology. Some experts said the manuscript contained little original thinking. They evaluate the attack of the self-described anarchist against what he says is a corrupt and dehumanized technological society as a passable, if dated, graduate-level discourse by someone versed in scholarly argument.

In addition, the growing strength of his bombs and a pattern of erratic behavior this year, including a false threat in June to blow up an airplane, led some criminal profilers on the case to alter their initial view that the Unabomber was a terrorist with a political agenda. Instead, they now regard him as a serial murderer who kills to satisfy an inner psychological need.

For that reason, some investigators fear he will find a reason to kill again, despite his pledge to cease his campaign of violence. If The New York Times or The Washington Post published his manifesto, the newspapers financed the publication of the manuscript by The Post on Sept. 19. But the Unabomber suspect has sent no further communication.

"This guy is a serial killer," said John Douglas, who until his recent retirement headed the FBI's serial-crime unit. Mr. Douglas said the Unabomber suspect's demands for publication of the manuscript indicated a desire for "manipulation, domination and control," traits typical of serial offenders.

"He's not going to go away," said Mr. Douglas. "He'll look for some excuse, some evil that will cause him to do this again."

Michael Rustigan, a criminology professor at San Francisco State University who studies serial killers, said: "He's probably the most intelligent serial killer the country has ever experienced."



GUATEMALA RALLY — Alvaro Arzu campaigning for president in Guatemala City. He is favored to win Nov. 12.

POLITICAL NOTES

The Powell Scenarios

WASHINGTON — For the Clinton White House, where it is as red hot a topic as everywhere else in Washington, the prospect of Colin L. Powell as a Republican presidential candidate is both a dream and a nightmare.

The retired general could be the Democrats' best friend if he divided the Republican field and yet was denied the nomination after a bitter internecine fight, allowing Mr. Clinton to paint the Republicans as unworthy of leadership. Or Mr. Powell might win the nomination but prompt a right-wing, third-party candidacy by someone like Patrick J. Buchanan that would split the vote in Clinton's favor.

But if Mr. Powell, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, managed to win the Republican nomination with his party's full backing, most Democratic strategists assume he would be all but impossible to attack and terribly hard to beat. Most Clinton advisers sum up the president's prospects in such a race in terse, simple Anglo-Saxon verbs.

"If he gets in and cruises, it's going to be very bleak for us," said Carter Eskew, a Democratic consultant.

A recent New York Times/CBS News Poll found that in a two-way race, the general would draw the support of nearly 1 in 3 black voters and would defeat Mr. Clinton, who would win just over half of the blacks' votes, by 50 percent to 38 percent over all. (NYT)

Gingrich Cries Foul

WASHINGTON — House Speaker Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, is crying foul. He says his words have been mangled. The Democratic National Committee is urging him to spend all the dimes he wants explaining how.

Meantime, the Democratic National Committee has gone ahead with a tough, \$1.6 million targeted nationwide television ad campaign, the heat of which is a recent clip of the speaker saying — the ad claims — of Medicare: "We don't get rid of it in round one because we don't think that's politically smart, we don't think that's the right way to go through a transi-

sition, but we believe it's going to wither on the vine."

Mr. Gingrich insists he was talking about the Health Care Financing Administration, and a transcript shows that was the immediate prior reference in his recent remarks to a Blue Cross/Blue Shield audience. But a few sentences before, Mr. Gingrich also says: "Let me talk about Medicare." And the words immediately after the words shown in the clip are that "it" will wither on the vine "because we think people are voluntarily going to leave it."

Earlier, the Republican National chairman, Haley Barbour, called the ad "totally inaccurate and deceptive" and asked the Democrats not to air it. The request fell on deaf — and delighted — ears. (WP)

Quote /Unquote

President Bill Clinton, at the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin: "To all the people of Israel, the American people mourn with you the loss of your leader. Even in your hour of darkness, his spirit lives on, so you must not lose your spirit."

Desperately Seeking Leaders
Confidence Lags in Clinton and DoleBy David S. Broder
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Less angry than they were in 1992 and 1994, American voters view Election Day 1996, just a year from now, as an opportunity to fill the leadership vacuum they see in the White House and to pass judgment on the domestic policy changes being enacted by the Republican Congress.

Neither President Bill Clinton nor Senator Bob Dole, the leading contender for the Republican presidential nomination, inspires great confidence. To many, retired General Colin L. Powell looks like a promising alternative, while the third-place candidate in 1992, Ross Perot, now has much less support for a possible presidential run.

The tone of what Washington Post reporters heard from people around the United States last week was perhaps best captured by Ned Huffman, a retired Raleigh, North Carolina, businessman and Republican. "This country could be so great," he said, "but we need totally new leadership. We're not getting it from the current president, and Senator Dole has seen his day."

Three years after they tossed Republicans out of the White House and one year after they ended the Democrats' long run on Capitol Hill, the angry voters who have been the dominant political story of the 1990s appear to have cooled their jets a bit.

No single issue dominates living room conversations as the economy did four years ago amid a recession and widespread layoffs.

Still, many of those interviewed saw the Washington battle over the balanced budget plan as something that could

drastically change the country's economic future. The budget fight and the closely related struggle to cut spending on Medicare and Medicaid have become the defining issues on which the reputation of this Congress will rest.

The interviews and a Washington Post poll conducted Oct. 27-30 also show that the Republican "revolution" ushered in by the 1994 election is playing a great deal better than its leader. Three of five of those polled said this Congress is doing a better job than the Democratic-controlled Congress did in Mr. Clinton's first two years.

But the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, the symbol of that change in control, is disapproved of by three people for every two who approve of him.

The interviewing concentrated on neighborhoods that had helped Mr. Clinton defeat President George Bush in 1992 but switched to aid Republicans in ousting Democrats from Congress — or cutting into their margins — in 1994. These swing voters express the view that Washington finally is working on the problems that concern them — controlling deficits, cleaning up welfare and meeting domestic needs.

Mr. Clinton has impressed some voters by plugging away at his job despite the criticism. Bill White, a Republican who owns a Raleigh auto-parts business, said: "He's done a decent job. Foreign policy is in good shape and the economy is going full steam with inflation under control. What more do you want?"

Others voice deep doubts about the president. Andrew J. Krouse, a fund-raiser for the University of Virginia business school, said Mr. Clinton had no vision for the country. "He panders," Mr. Krouse said. "I

mean, he's just all over the place, and his personal values are way off-center."

Mr. Dole is the one Republican contender whose name comes up with any frequency from those seeking an alternative to Mr. Clinton, but his ratings are barely better than the president's. Some say the 72-year-old senator is too old for the job and, like Mr. Clinton, flaps. Fred Hodgson, 79, of Painesville, Ohio, called him "too old, and also prone to say whatever you want him to say."

By contrast, General Powell rolled up Eisenhower-like numbers in the survey of leadership traits and clearly interests many voters. But there is also a feeling he needs to reveal his views.

"He's like a blind date," said Fran Polovick, who runs a construction business with her husband in North Carolina. "You have great hopes, but you never know."

The Post poll showed Mr. Perot holding at about the same level of support as in 1992, when he won 19 percent of the presidential vote. But some have sworn off the Dallas billionaire. Roger Ortiz, a 21-year-old community-college student in New Jersey, cast his first presidential vote for Mr. Perot, but won't this time.

"He's gotten a little crazy on me," Mr. Ortiz said, who recalled Mr. Perot's accusations in 1992 that Republicans were trying to sabotage the wedding of his daughter.

Still, Mr. Perot has more fans out there than Mr. Gingrich, whose personality grates on many voters.

"Gingrich is so bombastic he almost makes you wince," said Becky Wall of Raleigh. "He is cold. He is not really concerned about those he hurts."

Away From Politics

• A 13-year-old girl doing her family's wash in the laundry room of her apartment building was shot and killed, the police in New York City said. The police had no motive and no suspects in the slaying of Dina Taylor, who was found bleeding and unconscious by a neighbor, according to a police spokesman. (AP)

• The so-called rosary ladies, barred from two Roman Catholic churches earlier this year for praying too loudly, have taken their high-decibel devotion to St. Margaret Mary Church in Moon Township, 10 miles west of Pittsburgh, where their shouted prayers forced about 25 other worshippers to leave. "It's very disruptive," one parishioner said. (AP)

• America's most powerful unmanned rocket has been launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, with a \$1 billion communications satellite for the Defense Department. The Milstar satellite is the second in a series of six super-secure and jam-proof communications spacecraft. (AP)

• St. Paulus Lutheran Church in San Francisco, a historic building that was dedicated in 1894 and survived the 1906 earthquake, has been destroyed by fire. (AP)

• A pipe bomb was found inside a newspaper coin-sales box for the third time in five days in or near Detroit, which has been hit by a sometimes violent 3½-month-long newspaper strike. A bomb squad disabled the device safely. The authorities had no suspects and would not speculate on whether the incident was connected to the strike against The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press. (AP)

• The Supreme Court has agreed to decide what standard appeals courts should use when reviewing judges' decisions to allow the use of evidence seized in searches conducted without a warrant. The court said it will hear arguments in a Wisconsin case that cocaine seized from a car should not have been allowed as evidence. (AP)

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ASIA

Bhutto in Tehran To Ease Relations Afghan War Creates Friction

Agence France-Press

TEHRAN — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan arrived here on a three-day visit Monday to try to end a dispute with Iran over Afghanistan.

Miss Bhutto, greeted at the airport by President Hashemi Rafsanjani, said to reporters that the problem in Kashmir and the Afghan situation would dominate talks with Iranian officials.

"Important problems exist concerning peace and security in the region, the most important of which are the problems in Kashmir and Afghanistan," she said, adding that bilateral political and economic issues would also be discussed.

The Shiite-majority Iran has been alarmed over the rapid rise of the Sunni Muslim Taliban militia in Afghanistan.

The militia's stunning capture of three provinces in western Afghanistan bordering Iran in early September sent shudders through the Iranian leadership, which distrusts the anti-Shiite fundamentalist group.

Officials here accuse the Taliban of being manipulated by Pakistan and the United States, and the Iranian media have urged Miss Bhutto to make her country's stand clear toward the Taliban during her visit.

"Tehran is willing to learn about Pakistan's official and public position towards the Afghan situation," said the newspaper Akhbar, contending that there was "some evidence" proving Islamabad's support for the Taliban.

Pakistan denied allegations, also made by the Afghan president, Burhanuddin Rabbani, that it provides support to the Islamic militia.

The student militia, which is now besieging the capital, Kabul, has demanded that Mr. Rabbani step down to pave the way for an Islamic government.

Mr. Rafsanjani said after Miss Bhutto's arrival that there were no problems in bilateral relations between the two countries.

tries, but that the regional crisis had to be addressed.

"Iran and Pakistan could contribute to settle the problems and crisis in the region," he said. "We hope Ms. Bhutto's visit would help to solve the problems."

Miss Bhutto will in turn ask Iran to support her country's position on Kashmir, a state in northern India where the Muslim separatist rebellion has left more than 11,000 people dead since 1989.

The conflict is a major dispute between India and Pakistan, which supports the rebels.

Iran has until now kept a low profile toward the conflict and offered to mediate between Islamabad and New Delhi, with which Tehran has tried to establish good ties.

In an interview with the official Iranian press agency IRNA before her visit, Miss Bhutto said her country would accept Iran's mediation, which has been rejected by India.

It is Miss Bhutto's second trip to Iran since she became prime minister for a second time. She last visited here in December 1993, only two months after she assumed office.



Tamils, some of them refugees, streaming into the northern, rebel-held area of Vavuniya to make daily purchases.

Poised to Strike, Sri Lanka Restricts Aid

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

COLOMBO — The Sri Lankan government, poised for a major push on the Tamil rebel stronghold of Jaffna, told international relief agencies Monday that they must work under government control if they want to provide assistance for those fleeing the war.

"We do not intend to permit any outside agencies, including the United Nations itself, to carry out independent operations," Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar said at a news conference.

Casting doubt on the impartiality of aid

groups, he said: "There is a perception like that. We can't give irrefutable proof but there are reasons to believe that there's a certain lack of impartiality on the part of some international organizations."

He said the government was doing all it could to help the refugees, said by aid agencies to face starvation or disease.

Mr. Kadirgamar said he thought the number of people displaced by the two-week-old offensive was around 100,000.

Aid agencies said that Jaffna was deserted and that up to 500,000 people had fled the fighting.

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Scientists Resume Hunt for Elusive Beijing Man

Agence France-Press

BEIJING — After a break of more than 16 years, archaeologists are to resume work on the site of the Beijing Man in the hope of solving a series of mysteries surrounding one of the most important finds in the world.

The site at Zhoukoudian, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) southwest of Beijing, was first discovered in 1921. In 1929, it yielded the first skull of what has since become known as the Sinanthropus, or Beijing Man.

"It is a unique site because men had been living there between 250,000 and 500,000 years ago," said Yves Coppens, member of the French Academie

des Sciences and head of the operation to rehabilitate the site.

"There are still plenty of things to be discovered there, which could take us back tens if not hundreds of thousands of years," he said.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, or Unesco, declared Zhoukoudian a global heritage site in 1987, appointing Mr. Coppens to supervise the operation, started at the request of China.

The project, financed by a group of French companies, will cost \$2.5 million. The site itself is in danger of collapsing under overgrown vegetation.

But there has been no shortage of setbacks for the project over the years.

During World War II, the entire collection of fossils exhumed between 1929 and 1937 mysteriously disappeared — nine skulls, 150 teeth and numerous bone fragments.

As Mr. Coppens describes it, "a treasure of inestimable value to the history of humanity" simply vanished.

All that is known is that after the Japanese invasion in 1937, the archaeologists in charge of the site decided that the fossils should be taken to safety.

In 1941, the U.S. Embassy was charged with taking the cases of fossils under military escort to the port of Qingdao, 300 kilometers (185 miles)

east of Beijing, to rendezvous with the ship, the President Harrison.

They were never seen again. In the spring of 1996, Mr. Coppens and his team will begin scanning the site with gravimetric and electromagnetic devices to pin-point areas to dig.

The archaeologist believes it is possible that one day, the search may uncover human remains that date back more than 2 million years.

"The first hominids migrated from eastern Africa around 3 million years ago, settling in Europe, Africa and Asia," he said. "Beijing Man then spread from China to the Americas, Australia and the Pacific islands."

BRIEFLY ASIA

Seoul Widens Slush-Fund Probe

SEOUL — Prosecutors will summon the heads of five more business conglomerates and a relative of former President Roh Tae Woo's for questioning over Mr. Roh's \$654 million slush fund, a prosecution spokesman said Monday.

"We plan to summon chairmen of five conglomerates tomorrow and three of them have been notified," the spokesman said. "They are chairmen of Hanil Group, Dongbu Group and Jinro Group." He said a Parliament member, Kim Jin Ho of the Democratic Liberal Party and a relative of Mr. Roh's by marriage, also would be summoned. (Reuters)

Mrs. Marcos Takes Seat and Heat

MANILA — Imelda Marcos crowned a political comeback when she took her seat in the Philippine Congress, but she immediately came under fire. The former first lady took her oath of office from the House speaker, promising to uphold the laws of the land that her husband, Ferdinand, ruled for 20 years.

Mrs. Marcos listened impassively as Representative Teresa Aquino-Oreta launched an attack: "Mrs. Marcos now stands among us in the institution that Mr. Marcos padlocked and abolished in the martial law system that he imposed."

Mrs. Oreta is a younger sister of Benigno S. Aquino, a former opposition senator who was shot and killed at the Manila airport in 1983 on his return from exile in the United States. Mrs. Oreta said Mrs. Marcos should tell the House what she knew about the killing, which Mr. Marcos is widely accused of having ordered. (Reuters)

500,000 in Camps After Typhoon

MANILA — More than half a million people remained in evacuation camps Monday in 25 provinces battered by a killer typhoon last week, officials said.

The latest reports brought the death toll to more than 600, a figure that could rise to 800 since many more people were still missing. (AP)

Pakistan Assails Kashmir 'Farce'

ISLAMABAD — Foreign Minister Asf Ali Zardari on Monday condemned as a farce India's plan to hold elections next month in the two-thirds of Kashmir it controls.

"Under the circumstances, the decision to go ahead with the farcical polls in the disputed territory would be totally ill-advised," Mr. Ali said. "It would only aggravate the tensions in the entire region." (Reuters)

VOICES From Asia

Fidel V. Ramos, president of the Philippines, on his hopes for talks in December with the country's main Muslim insurgent group: "All indications point to a big peace dividend and benefit for our people." (AFP)

Alli Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, president of Iran, on the visit of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan: "Iran and Pakistan could contribute to settle the problems and crisis in the region. We hope Ms. Bhutto's visit would help to solve the problems." (AFP)

Lee Teng-hui, president of Taiwan, saying Chinese military exercises off Taiwan's coast show a hegemonic state of mind in Beijing: "This not only intensifies the hostility between the two sides, but blocks their reunification." (AFP)

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EUROPE



APOLOGY DEMANDED — A National Front leader, Martine Lehideux, being expelled from a government office in Paris on Monday. The party wants an apology for accusations that its members vandalized a Jewish cemetery in 1990.

A Cautious U.S. Delays Choice of NATO Chief

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

Washington is seeking to delay the choice of a new NATO secretary-general, U.S. officials said Monday, because the Clinton administration fears a wrong choice could harm the chances of sending U.S. troops into Bosnia for the alliance's planned peacekeeping operations there.

Because of this concern, the officials said, it was unlikely that an informal meeting Tuesday of NATO representatives would proceed with the approval of Roud Lubbers, the former Dutch

prime minister. "I don't think we're there yet in terms of comfort level in Washington," an administration aide said, indicating that Pentagon leaders felt more favorably inclined toward the other candidate, former Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen of Denmark.

Mr. Ellemann-Jensen has widely acknowledged military expertise, but Mr. Lubbers already enjoys a near-consensus among European countries, with Britain, France and Germany all publicly supporting him.

Some diplomats said that the U.S. insistence on interviewing the candi-

dates in Washington was mainly a public relations exercise designed to impress American opinion, especially in Congress, that the Clinton administration had made certain that the alliance was getting the best man for the job at a critical juncture.

"The Americans just wanted to remind everybody that they have a say," a European diplomat was quoted as saying in Brussels.

"Even if the Americans are a little unhappy at the speed with which European governments lined up behind a candidate, they may feel that it's enough for them to make their point without

trying to turn things around," a North Atlantic Treaty Organization official said.

European diplomats said that they had no indication Monday that the Clinton administration had decided to launch a last-minute challenge against Mr. Lubbers, whose candidacy was declared last Friday by the Dutch government after he returned from a trip to Washington for talks about the job.

Mr. Ellemann-Jensen held similar meetings in Washington a day later, and Danish newspapers said Monday that he had received U.S. encouragement to press his candidacy.

France Charges an Algerian Seen as a Top Terror Suspect

The Associated Press

PARIS — An Algerian suspected of coordinating a wave of terrorist attacks in France was charged Monday in a Paris subway station bombing that wounded 13 people last month.

Judge Jean-Louis Bruguière charged Boualem Bensaid, 28, with attempted murder, destruction of property, violation of laws regarding explosives, and association with a terrorist organization.

A second Algerian, Omar Allaoui, was charged with attempted murder in the latest attack, the Oct. 17 bombing of a regional subway train near the Musée d'Orsay station in Paris that wounded 28 passengers.

Mr. Allaoui, 27, who says his real name is Smain Ait Ali Belkacem, was arrested last

week with two other men near the northern city of Lille. The police found a nearly completed bomb in the apartment where the men were captured.

Sources close to the investigation said they expected Mr. Bensaid to be charged with some of the seven other bombings or attempts, including the attack near the Musée d'Orsay station.

France's wave of terror began on July 25, when a bomb tore through a crowded subway train in the heart of Paris near Notre Dame, killing seven people and wounding 84.

Mr. Bensaid was arrested last Thursday in Paris. The police said he was using a public telephone to order that a bomb be set off in a market in Lille.

Police investigators said last week they had found Mr. Ben-

said's fingerprints on a bomb fragment in the Maison Blanche subway station in Paris on Oct. 6, as well as on tape on another bomb discovered Aug. 26 along a high-speed rail track near Lyon. French police say Mr. Bensaid received orders from Abdelkader Benouif, alias Abou Fares, and coordinated the bombing campaign. Mr. Benouif, who was arrested Saturday by British police in London, is believed to be a leading member of Algeria's most radical armed group, the Armed Islamic Group.

British police said Monday they had arrested several more people they suspect of having been involved with the bombings in France, but they declined to reveal their names or say how many suspects were in custody.

Yeltsin, Working Again, 'Looks Fine,' Aide Says

Reuters

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin, recovering in the hospital from a heart attack, looked well on Monday and got down to detailed work on Russia's economic problems, according to a first deputy prime minister, Oleg Soskovets.

The comments were the most upbeat assessment of Mr. Yeltsin's condition since the 64-year-old leader was rushed to Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital on Oct. 26 with his second mild heart attack in less than four months.

"Boris Yeltsin looks fine and absolutely capable of working," Itar-Tass news agency quoted Mr. Soskovets as saying.

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BRIEFLY EUROPE

German Party Targets EMU

BONN — Germany's opposition Social Democrats proposed Monday to make tighter conditions for EU monetary union an official party policy, adding weight to their threat to make the single currency an election issue.

In a motion to be put before a party conference next week, leading party economic specialists demanded that "EU members wanting to join a currency union must sign a special stability pact which goes beyond the Maastricht Treaty."

"Close coordination of economic and financial policy of individual member states and effective sanctions must be used to guarantee the solidity of currency union beyond its start-up date," continued the draft, drawn up by the party's financial expert, Oskar Lafontaine. (Reuters)

Ecologists Protest Greek Project

ATHENS — International and Greek ecologists appealed to the European Union on Monday to reject a Greek appeal for funding for a river diversion project that they say could wreak environmental havoc and threaten monuments.

"The European Union must categorically and finally reject funding for the Acheloos River diversion," the World Wide Fund for Nature said in a statement. (Reuters)

Trial in Bousquet Killing Begins

PARIS — A failed French writer who killed the Nazi collaborator René Bousquet to gain public attention went on trial for murder Monday.

Christian Didier, 51, is charged with premeditated murder in the shooting death of Mr. Bousquet two years ago, just months before the 84-year-old former police chief for the wartime Vichy regime was to go on trial for his role in deporting tens of thousands of Jews from France. (Reuters)

2 Freed IRA Members Rearrested

DUBLIN — The Irish authorities released four Irish Republican Army prisoners Monday but immediately rearrested two wanted in Britain on terrorism charges.

Nessan Quinlivan and Pearse McAuley, who escaped from a London prison in 1991, were expected to appear in court later for the start of possible extradition proceedings. (AP)

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Tuesday:

BRUSSELS: Hans van den Broek, the commissioner for relations with Eastern Europe, meets with Richard Morningstar, special adviser to President Bill Clinton.

BRUSSELS: EU industry ministers meet.

NEW YORK: Leon Brittan, the external affairs commissioner, and Christos Papoutsis, the energy commissioner, are to sign an agreement on nuclear cooperation in the Pacific. Sources: Agence Europe, AFP

Shevardnadze Wins Presidency Handily

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Eduard A. Shevardnadze won an overwhelming victory in Georgia's presidential elections and on Monday declared the outcome a vote of confidence in his program to stabilize the country after years of war and economic sacrifice.

The Central Election Commission in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi said in preliminary results that Mr. Shevardnadze won 75 percent of the vote. His nearest rival, Dzhumbar Patisashvili, received only about 15 percent. The election commission said the turnout was 64 percent of the 3.2 million eligible voters, surpassing the 50 percent threshold required to make the vote valid.

Mr. Shevardnadze is currently chairman of the Parliament, but will assume the new office of president, serving a five-year term, under Georgia's new constitution, approved this summer.

The former Soviet foreign minister, 67, assumed office in early 1992 at the invitation of those who led a coup that toppled nationalist President Zviad Gamskhurdia.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which monitored the election, said that "few specific complaints or violations" were brought to their attention. While it said there were some procedural problems, overall the election was described as a fair multiparty contest.

After the vote, which also chose a new 235-seat Parliament, Mr. Shevardnadze extended a hand of cooperation to the opposition.

Election officials said that Mr. Shevardnadze's Citizens Union movement had clearly won a large block of seats in the new legislature, although precise results were not yet available from the voting Sunday.

Several thousand candidates had competed for the Parliament, split between single-mandate seats and party lists.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who narrowly escaped an assassination attempt last Aug. 29, declared that the balloting marked "the victory of the policy aimed at democratic reforms." Interfax reported from Tbilisi.

In a television address, Mr. Shevardnadze said the voting had "excluded the possibility of a backward turn which had been quite a realistic danger."

He also said that Georgia's voters had "accepted my program" and "I think that this confidence referendum has been won and a big majority of the population has accepted my program of saving the country."

After claiming victory, Mr. Shevardnadze flew on to Israel

to attend the funeral of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

A former Communist Party boss of Georgia, Mr. Shevardnadze became the Soviet foreign minister in 1985 and shared in the decisions of Mikhail S. Gorbachev's perestroika years, which led to the end of the Cold War.

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Terry Pawson, award-winning architect, on Emirates (award-winning airline).

As Coltrane said "A house is a machine for living in," and Emirates clearly thinks that much the same applies to an aircraft. Flop in your comfy armchair (99), relax in front of the T.V. (6-channel personal video), enjoy a couple of drinks (Vanic Claret, Chateau St. Aubin, small parts), make the odd call (with the on-board satellite phone).

So do I feel at home? Not exactly. At home I am unlikely to be offered caviar, a choice of three first dishes and four tempting main courses, and a basket of exotic fruit by a smiling beauty in crisp red and cream uniform, no matter how good a mood Gilly is in.

Life is good. As even Coltrane might have said, after a flight on EK 008.

Terry Pawson

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Rabin's Murder / 'You Died as a Soldier for Peace'

National Leaders Salute Israel's Martyred Visionary

The Associated Press
Following are excerpts from eulogies delivered at the state funeral in Jerusalem on Monday of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel.

King Hussein of Jordan:
I never thought that the moment would come like this when I would grieve the loss of a brother, a colleague and a friend, a man, a soldier who met us on the opposite side of a divide, who we respected as he respected us, a man I came to know because I realize he did that we had to cross over the divide, establish the dialogue and strive to leave also for us a legacy that is worthy of him.

You lived as a soldier. You died as a soldier for peace, and I believe it is time for all of us to come out openly and to speak of peace. Not here today but for all the times to come. We belong to the camp of peace.

We are not ashamed, nor are we afraid, nor are we anything but determined to conclude the legacy for which my friend felt as did my grandfather in this very city when I was with him as but a young boy.

And when my time comes, I hope it will be like my grandfather's, and like Yitzhak Rabin's.

President Ezer Weizman of Israel:
It was an intense honor to him and pride that during his time we commenced talks with the Palestinians.

The greatest symbol was perhaps the 80

representatives of foreign nations, ministers, kings and presidents, they have come here today out of great respect for his achievements and personal recognition.

I am sure that he would know that this is an honor to Israel. The state of Israel today enjoys respect throughout the world and is a country that wants peace more than anything else.

'Grandfather, you were the pillar of fire before the camp and now the camp is in darkness and sadness... How can you console a whole nation when grandmother cannot stop weeping, and we only feel the lack of you?'

Acting Prime Minister Peres of Israel:
This last Saturday night, we sang together the song of peace and I felt a rising spirit in your breast. You told me about warnings against your life at this rally.

We did not know who the terrorist, we did not imagine that the injury would be so great, but we knew we must not fear death and we must not hesitate in the peace.

I see our people with tears in their eyes but we know that the dummy bullet that killed you cannot kill the idea you started. You did not leave a will and testament but you left us a way upon which we will march with faith and determination.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt:
He defied the prejudices of the past to tackle the most complicated of problems, namely the Palestinian problem, in a forthright manner. The success he achieved in this regard has finally led to the foundations of peaceful coexistence between the Palestinians and the Israelis in a climate of trust and mutual respect.

President Bill Clinton:
Today my fellow citizens of the world, I ask all of you to take a good hard look at this picture. Look at the leaders from all over the Middle East and around the world that have journeyed here today for Yitzhak Rabin and for peace.

Although we no longer hear that deep and booming voice, it is he who has brought us together again here in word and deed for peace.

Now it falls to all of us who loved peace and all of us who loved him to carry on the struggle to which he gave life.

Surely we must learn of his martyrdom, that if a people cannot let go of the hatred of their enemies, they risk sowing the seed of hatred among themselves.

I ask you, the people of Israel, on behalf of my own nation that knows its own long history of loss from Lincoln to Kennedy to Martin Luther King, do not let that happen to you.

Noa Ben-Artzi Philis, Mr. Rabin's granddaughter:
Grandfather, you were the pillar of fire before the camp and now the camp is in darkness and sadness. I know that people speak in terms of national disaster, but how can you console a whole nation when grandmother cannot stop weeping, and we only feel the lack of you?

Grandfather, you were and still are our own private hero, and I want you to know that everything I ever did was for you. Your appreciation and love has accompanied us at every

step in all ways. You never neglected, and here you have been neglected now. There is no feeling of revenge in me, for the pain does not allow this. The ground which has been swept out from underneath us will be the base for our recovery.

I ask of you that you rest in peace and know and think of us too, because we are down here and love you very much, and may the God of Israel that keeps over all of us keep you in the heavens as you deserve. I am with you forever.

These achievements have undoubtedly established him as a true hero of peace.

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In the Gaza Strip, Reaction Is Muted

Palestinians Are Concerned About Impact on the Future

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

GAZA STRIP — There was little empathy for Yitzhak Rabin in the Gaza Strip on the day of his funeral.

Most of the day Gazans spent their time wondering what the future holds for them, complaining about what many saw as the unnecessary humiliation of preventing their leader, Yasser Arafat, from attending the funeral in Jerusalem and the shutting down of the coastal strip's borders by the Israeli Army.

Its streets were deserted, many of its shops shuttered and its million Palestinians paralyzed by the army shutdown.

"Am I sorry? Yes, I am sorry for us, not for Rabin," said Saeed Mohammed as he leaned on his grocery shop's door.

"The one who killed him is a Jew, so why are the Palestinians locked up? Even when it is open, Gaza is still behind bars. The Israelis haven't absorbed the fact we are here as human beings and partners. To them we are marginal."

More than distress or even anger, the mood in this area where the Palestinian Authority reigns was one of hunkering down, awaiting the passing of a storm and the arrival of better times.

At Mr. Arafat's headquarters, the Palestinian leader spent much of the day watching broadcasts of the funeral to which, Israeli authorities had made it clear, Mr. Arafat was not welcome.

Mr. Arafat ordered his security forces to ban Islamic fundamentalists from any public display of pleasure over the death of the Israeli prime minister. The measure proved unnecessary as most Gazans stayed home, many watching the funeral on television.

The dominant sentiment here about Mr. Rabin was bitterness, tinged with some recognition that after years as an implacable enemy of Palestinian nationalism he has, over the last two years, rallied to and led the notion of making peace with Palestinians.

"He is not our president and he is not our leader," said Mossa'ad Ayash, a playground guardian at a Palestinian refugee camp, speaking of Mr. Rabin.

"God knows he treated us like animals for years, but the hazards of destiny are so strange. He died as he was trying to reverse course and make peace."

At the small Walid Seidam cloth-making factory, most of the workers appeared oblivious to the events of the day, still wedded to the bitter memories of their long struggle with an Israeli occupation that lasted 27 years.

"Everybody in this shop has had one or more tragedies in their families because of Rabin and his generals," said Emad Ghoul, a worker at the factory.

"We saw our sons, fathers, cousins or other relatives jailed, shot, beaten or rendered unemployed by Israel. O.K., so Rabin made peace, but does it mean you just forget what he did before that?"

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Syria Urges Israel To Pursue Talks

First Comment on Killing

Compiled by Our Staff From Damascus

DAMASCUS — In its first official reaction to the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Damascus urged Israel on Monday to "make up for lost time" in peace talks with Syria and Lebanon.

"After the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Israel has to make up for lost time if it sincerely wants peace, by consecrating its efforts on serious and sincere talks on the Lebanon and Syrian tracks, to arrive at a just and global peace," a government daily newspaper, Tishrin, said.

Syria's official media had up to now made no comment on Mr. Rabin's assassination.

"Syria believes peace concerns all peoples of the region.

it is a need for all, and it should not be linked with individuals," a senior official in Damascus said.

"Syria will continue to work for the achievement of a peace which will be based on UN resolutions calling for Israel's total withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands, including the Golan Heights," he said.

Syria remains Israel's most powerful Arab adversary and peace talks between them are deadlocked. Still officially at a state of war, it did not send any officials to the Rabin funeral.

But President Hafez Assad told the United States that he condemned the killing, a U.S. official said.

The official, who asked not to be named, told reporters traveling with President Bill Clinton and a U.S. delegation to Jerusalem for Mr. Rabin's funeral that Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher telephoned Mr. Assad on Saturday night.

The main point of dispute in the Israeli-Syrian negotiations is the fate of the Golan Heights, which were captured by troops under Mr. Rabin's command in the 1967 Middle East War when he was Israel's army chief.

Damascus wants the plateau returned in full. Israel wants Syria to agree to full diplomatic ties before it will reveal the scale of a withdrawal. Future security arrangements are also at issue.

Tishrin, the Syrian paper, urged Mr. Rabin's successor to work "seriously and sincerely" to achieve progress in the talks with Syria and its close ally Lebanon. (AP, Reuters)

At Graveside, A Shouting Match Erupts

JERUSALEM — The body of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had lain in the ground for little more than an hour Monday when Israelis broke into a graveside shouting match over his peace policies.

The fight started after the dignitaries, police and cameras had left, and the cemetery opened to the public. Hundreds swarmed to the wreath-covered grave to lay bouquets and light candles.

But the shouting soon drowned out the prayers.

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Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres greeting President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt at the Rabin funeral in Jerusalem.

Hard-Liners' Concern: Now Rabin Will Be a 'Hero Forever'

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

HEBRON, West Bank — All across Israel and wherever there were Israelis to hear them, the sirens sounded at 2 P.M. Monday to summon the nation to silent mourning for Yitzhak Rabin, but Shmuel Mushnik showed no grief.

Rather, Mr. Mushnik, a 40-year-old history teacher from the hard-line Jewish settlement at Hebron's heart, preferred to ponder the question that will sunder Israel long after the mourning is over: Who bears the moral guilt for Mr. Rabin's assassination — the extreme right that fired up passions against his policies of peace, or the left that pursued them so vigorously?

"If you press the great part of society — and press it hard like Rabin did — there'll always be someone who cracks," Mr. Mushnik said, seeking to interpret the motives of Yigal Amir,

the 25-year-old, rightist law student who shot and killed Mr. Rabin.

Therefore, he went on, to draw the conclusion that the right bore a broader responsibility for Mr. Rabin's death was "as much a nonsense as blaming the Republicans for the assassination of John F. Kennedy."

His remarks to a reporter reflected a subdued and confused mood among Israeli ultrarightists following the killing, blending a prickly defensiveness with a refusal to acknowledge that their vituperative onslaughts against Mr. Rabin and their frequent accusations that he had betrayed them might have inspired Mr. Amir to murder.

Indeed, conversations with some settlers left a clear sense that Mr. Rabin's death had stripped away some of their hallmark swagger after months of furious anti-government demonstrations by settlers that brought the tone and level of opposition to the peace

movement to fever pitch. With the assassination Saturday, settlers were not only confronted by the traumatic vision of Jew killing Jew, but they had also seen the killing done by a professed ideological associate at a time when they feel their presence in Biblical Israel is under challenge.

"We have suffered great damage from this because I'm sure that the whole process was moving to a point where Rabin would have lost his job," said Noam Aron, an official of the Beit Hadassah Jewish settlement. "Now he'll be a hero forever," Mr. Aron added.

The views of Mr. Mushnik and Mr. Aron are not unique among the 450 Jews who live in deadly unease among 100,000 Palestinians in this city that virtually defines the fault line between Arab and Jew.

Here, what Israelis call the Tomb of the Patriarchs and what Arabs call the Sanctuary of Abraham provides a site of equal sanctity to both and a source of common purpose for neither. Here, the collective memory is scarred by decades of bloodletting reaching from the 1929 massacre of 67 Jews in Hebron to the February 1994 slaughter of 29 Arab worshippers by Baruch Goldstein, a Jewish physician from the nearby settlement of Kiryat Arba.

Yet, for all the Jewish settlers here have sought a place at the noisy vanguard of opposition to peace moves with the Palestinians — citing Biblical injunctions to settle the land of Israel — their mood Monday was more subdued and ambivalent.

"All the policies of this government are against the Torah, but nobody makes it easier because he was the thought of killing the prime minister," said Daniel Hizmi, 40, who inscribes Torah scrolls in a fine calligrapher's hand alongside his job as a restaurateur. "We are still trying to digest it."

Mr. Mushnik said: "We do not have a good feeling. We were not great supporters of Mr. Rabin but you don't solve political differences in this way."

"Here we have a Jew killing a Jew, killing a nationally elected political figure," said David Wilder, the assistant director of the Jewish Community of Hebron, who emigrated from the United States 14 years ago. "What drove him to do this?"

At the same time, some settlers said they saw a long-term advantage because, they contended, the peace movement had lost its most powerful champion and the Labor Party its most persuasive personality.

"It's not happiness. I can't say it's happiness," said Mr. Hizmi. "But it makes it easier because he was the leader of the policies of his government. Without Rabin, they could not have won the last election. With him, they can do nothing."

'It's Not Real': Widow Recounts Last Moments

JERUSALEM — The widow of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said she did not really know what had happened when a gunman shot her husband.

"The last moment that I remember was a terrible moment," Leah Rabin said in an interview with Israeli television and radio. "Suddenly we heard the shots and he immediately fell to the floor and everyone covered him and I said, 'It's not real.'"

"I was right behind him. But the bodyguards remembered me and took me away quickly, and when I asked what happened to him, they said there were shots from a toy pistol" used by a rabble-rouser, she recounted in a hoarse voice.

"They pushed me into another car and swept me away from there as if I was in an ambulance, sirens, lights and we passed through a red light and we arrived at the security service base and the whole time I kept asking, 'Where is Yitzhak?'"

(Reuters, AP)

FUNERAL: Tears and Eloquence for Fallen Hero

Continued from Page 1

now that he was gone, and appealed to a stunned Israel to stay the course and overcome the deep divisions that the process of disengagement with the Arabs has opened.

"Your prime minister was a martyr for peace, but he was a victim of hate," said Mr. Clinton. "Surely, we must learn from his martyrdom that if people cannot let go of the hatred of their enemies, they risk sowing the seeds of hatred among themselves."

The realization forced by the assassination that the rift in the Israeli society was far deeper and more violent than many Israelis had thought hung over the nation.

Along with the images of Israelis across the country stopping anything they were doing at 2 P.M. while sirens wailed for two minutes in memory of the fallen leader, state television also showed the confessed assassin, Yigal Amir, being brought into court for a remand hearing.

In his eulogy, Shimon Peres said that Mr. Rabin had warned him during the rally of the threat of assassination. "You told me there are warnings of an assassination attempt at the large rally," he said. "We did not know who would strike. We did not imagine the harm would be so great. But we knew we must not fear death and we must not hesitate for peace."

The horror of the killing was brought home most dramatically by Mr. Rabin's long-time friend and speechwriter, Eytan Haber,

who read the last eulogy. Recalling that Mr. Rabin had been to join in a singular "Song of Peace" produced by the blood of the song that the ister had folded as pocket on leaving.

"The blood that your body in the of your life is between the world and then read from it by Yaacov Rabin 1967 Six-Day War."

"He whose distinguished And has been earth Bitter tears him Will not be here."

President Leonid Kuchma (Ukraine)

President Bill Clinton, Secretary Christopher, former President George Bush, former Secretary of State James Baker, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin, Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas Brady, Secretary of the Environment Douglas M. Costle, Secretary of the Labor Department Raymond J. Donovan, Secretary of the Agriculture Department Clayton Kopp, Secretary of the Housing and Urban Development Department Jack F. Foye, Secretary of the Veterans Affairs Department James A. Parsons, Secretary of the Energy Department William E. Brock, Secretary of the Commerce Department Robert M. La Follette Jr., Secretary of the Justice Department Janet Reno, Secretary of the State Department James A. Baker III, Secretary of the Defense Department Les Aspin, Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas Brady, Secretary of the Environment Douglas M. Costle, Secretary of the Labor Department Raymond J. 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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald Tribune

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U.S.-Japanese Strains

The rape of a 12-year-old girl in Okinawa, allegedly by three U.S. Marines, has stirred calls for the reduction and removal of the 47,000 American troops in Japan and for review of the basic U.S.-Japan security treaty. The incident itself is being dealt with — on the American side by apologies, offers of compensation and troop relocation, and on the Japanese side by criminal trials opening this Tuesday. But experience elsewhere with the sensitive matter of foreign troop conduct suggests that it would be shortsighted to ignore the deeper implications of the protests, even though they have not taken on high political force so far.

The security arrangements with Japan put in place after World War II were a success. America acquired the forward presence essential to its Cold War policy of containment of communism in the Pacific. A democratic Japan enjoyed the shelter undergirding its national revival. All of non-Communist Asia profited from the resulting regional stability.

But the question of post-Cold War security policy is still open. Successive U.S. administrations have sought essentially to update the Cold War arrangement with Japan by slimming down the U.S. presence, changing its mission from

containment of communism to engagement with all states of the region, and drawing Japan's own now formidable military carefully into regional and broader humanitarian and peacekeeping duties. Successive Japanese governments have supported this approach.

Still, some fairly ask whether the United States may not be tempting trouble by maintaining what is in effect a benevolent but real American protectorate. This arrangement has its political as well as military reasons, not least to muffle lingering regional resentments of Tokyo. But Japan's dependency could yet expose Washington to a nationalist backlash. Meanwhile, it creates an unhealthy situation in which the United States is sometimes made to look more concerned for Japan's security than the Japanese.

U.S.-Japanese relations require constant work. In Tokyo the other day, Defense Secretary William Perry called on Japanese authorities to keep reminding citizens that the neighborhood remains dangerous and that the interests served by the security link are not just America's but Japan's. Only on a basis of openness and mutual confidence can this link be kept as strong as it must be.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

A UN Compromise

The United Nations put on a swell party to mark its 50th birthday last month. Unfortunately, the organizers let the assembled world leaders leave town without seriously addressing the two related challenges clouding the United Nations' immediate future. No consensus was forged on structural reforms, and no serious proposals were made to induce the U.S. Congress to pay America's legally obligated back dues.

Even as the celebrations proceeded, the Clinton administration needlessly undercut its entreaties to Congress on the dues issue by asserting a constitutionally dubious right to send U.S. troops into perilous international peace enforcement situations without congressional consent.

But now the administration has come up with a promising new initiative linking reform, back dues and troop deployments that could advance American interests on all three fronts.

In exchange for a firm commitment from Congress to pay the back dues over a period of several years, the administration would concede Congress a much greater role in vetting prospective military commitments, press for a more reasonable dues assessment in future years, and pledge to enlist other key countries behind necessary UN financial and bureaucratic reforms.

The proposal represents a compromise position between the administration and

Congress. But it is a win-win-win deal for the American people.

Recognizing Congress's legitimate war powers would help restore the constitutional balance eroded during the Cold War years. Paying legally owed back dues would stave off the threat of UN bankruptcy and increase Washington's diplomatic leverage for achieving UN reform and negotiating a future dues reduction. Reform, which is shorthand for eliminating duplicative agencies and imposing across-the-board austerity measures on the headquarters bureaucracy, will make the United Nations more efficient in delivering services and help restore some of its lost trust among American taxpayers.

Congressional Republicans have given the proposal a respectful hearing but, so far, no firm promises of support. With a budget battle looming, domestic issues are dominating congressional attention, and the appetite for constructive compromise on an issue like the United Nations is limited.

But it would be a shame if this initiative got swamped by this year's budget partisanship and next year's presidential campaign. It blends the best elements of each party's thinking on these issues and would greatly enhance American leadership in UN affairs. So promising an opportunity must not be lost.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Frightened by Powell

We do not endorse Colin Powell for president when we say that some of the shot-across-the-bow warnings of exposed assault to come strike us as Halloween politics, nervous, grown-up opponents, outfitted in ghost attire, peeking out from behind a bush and shouting "Boo!" Our point is not that the general, if he runs, should be granted some kind of immunity from political scrutiny and (yes) assault. Far from it. That is part of the job, and how the candidate copes with it — his candor, his dignity, his cool — is one important measure of his qualification. We suspect that Colin Powell would do awfully well in this test, but that can wait for another day. What concerns us on this one is a particular group of goblins who shouted "Boo!" in all senses of the word "Boo!" last week. Don't think that the campaign will be "a bed of roses," they darkly warned.

These were a bunch of right-wing zealots who seemed to us, anyway, more scared than scary. What alarms them is that General Powell does not embody their own intense, narrow view of political virtue, and that his candidacy would threaten their own position.

But if they are as certain as they have been claiming to be in the past year that the Republican Party is firmly in their camp, then they ought not to be worried at all. Surely the party that they claim for their own dogma would reject such apostasy.

Or would it? Could it be that they are not so certain after all, that they suspect that Republican presidential-primary voters are not ideological automatons but rather thinking people who weigh all sorts of factors in deciding who should be president? In that case, both their claims and their clout might crumble. Maybe that is what they are worried about.

There has been a great deal of grumbling from their quarter that those Republicans promoting a Powell candidacy

are merely looking to acquire power for themselves. Is there some reason that the same analysis — fear of loss of power — does not apply to people like themselves who are so passionately opposing a Powell candidacy? The moment of true absurdity in the proceedings came when Paul Weyrich, who heads the Free Congress Foundation, having said that General Powell had been too cautious during the Gulf war, which is a fair issue to argue about, went on to declare that General Powell resembled the famous Gilbert and Sullivan figure from "HMS Pinafore" who had become, in Mr. Weyrich's slightly garbled quote, "ruler of the Queen's Navy by polishing the handles on the big brass front door."

So General Powell was essentially a toady and a time-server, we learn. What an extraordinarily crude thing to say about a man who did two tours of duty for his country in Vietnam, who served in combat and gave most of his adult life to military service.

What is so interesting about this mucked up Gilbert and Sullivan citation is that the charge which Mr. Weyrich & Co. appear to be making is exactly the opposite of what they clearly fear about General Powell.

They are troubled precisely because he shows no signs of being a toady to their huffing and puffing or their party line. In the same Gilbert and Sullivan song that Mr. Weyrich cited, there is a line, however, about the character in question becoming a member of Parliament that is relevant. It expresses what this particular group of Powell critics devoutly hope for in a Republican candidate: "I always voted at my party's call, and I never thought of thinking for myself at all."

We think it is Colin Powell's failure to meet that test that is bothering these very bothered critics.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Keep the 'Evil Angels of Death by Terrorism' in Mind

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — For months the right had poured hate on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Leaders of the Jewish settler movement said he was a traitor for agreeing to withdraw from parts of the West Bank — which God, they said, had given to Israel. Extremist rabbis called him a murderer for making peace with the Palestinians and said it would be morally in order to kill him.

At one right-wing political rally, a poster portrayed Mr. Rabin with a hooked nose dripping blood — a cartoon that could have come from the Nazi paper *Der Stürmer*. At another, he was shown in an SS uniform.

Security officials warned Mr. Rabin that the violent rhetoric could lead to violent acts. But this was Israel, where political leaders mix with ordinary citizens in the most casual way. A Jew kill the prime minister of Israel? It couldn't happen.

It happened. And so we learn again that words of hate have consequences.

Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of Israel's main opposition party of the right, the Likud, said Mr. Rabin had been "slain by a madman." That we cannot know by a diagnosis. What we do know is that he was

killed by a man who acted on the poisonous rhetoric of these past months. Words of hate can move the mad as they can the sane.

There is another warning in this act of destruction. That is the awful danger of treating political ideas as religious commands. "I acted alone on God's orders," the student arrested as the assassin, Yigal Amir, told police, "and I have no regrets."

In a democratic state, politics is a means of ordering differences of view peacefully. It necessarily requires compromise. It cannot work as a zero-sum game. Religion can of course inform one's political views. It can shape moral premises. But that is a very different thing from saying that God has drawn the boundaries of a state.

Whatever God's purpose in Israel, the modern state was created by men. David Ben-Gurion and his colleagues were practical politicians, skilled in the art of compromise. They accepted the partition of Palestine when absolutists opposed it. That is how Israel was born in 1948, and how it

drew the necessary support from President Harry Truman and the United Nations.

Israel is a successful country today, modern and prosperous. It cannot remain that, and be a contented society, if its territorial ambitions require it to rule by force over another people.

Mr. Rabin came to understand that, and his understanding is his legacy. He was a tough soldier, whose immediate instinct as defense minister when the intifada broke out was to put it down — as he said — by "force, might, beatings." But remarkably, in a man of his age, he was able to change.

He saw that reliance on force to keep down a subject population was corrupting Israel. He even came to understand, after an initial reluctance verging on revulsion, that Yasser Arafat was the best partner Israel had in trying to create a peaceful relationship with the Palestinians.

Toward the end, there was one other change in Mr. Rabin that is worth noting. He and Shimon Peres had been bitter enemies for decades. But he accepted the structure of peace negotiated at Oslo by the foreign minister, and at the White House in

September made a point of saluting "my full partner in peace, Shimon Peres."

Mr. Peres, as his successor, is totally committed to the negotiation of peace. But everyone knows that he has handicaps. He has never won the trust of many Israelis. And he does not have the reputation of an old hawk that enabled Mr. Rabin to get away, politically, with the arrangements for partial withdrawal from the West Bank. If he said so, people thought, it was safe.

Assassinations have effects. That ghostly truth cannot be avoided. The United States would be a different country today, very different, if John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy had not been murdered. How vulnerable we are to those who think of the gun as a legitimate political device — "the evil angels of death by terrorism," as Mr. Rabin warned at the White House.

That is no reason to abandon hope for peace between Israel and all its neighbors. It is reason to be realistic about the politics of a country with substantial numbers of citizens who are opposed to the only achievable terms of peace.

The New York Times.

Jews in Israel and Elsewhere Have to Combat Jewish Extremism

By Richard Cohen

WASHINGTON — On Jan.

16, 1932, two men approached a couple walking on the Tel Aviv beach and asked the man his name. "Chaim Arlosoroff," he replied — and was shot dead.

He was an important leader of what would become Israel's Labor Party. His killers apparently were extreme right-wing Jews.

To those who insist that the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin is without precedent, historical fact screams otherwise. Mr. Arlosoroff was murdered by a religious fanatic whose concept of Israel was as expansive then as it is now and who, if anything, mingled

dreams of a Greater Israel (all of Jordan, most of Syria) with an admiration for Italian and German fascism that today seems totally incomprehensible. Jewish fascists? Yes, I'm afraid so.

We know very little about Yigal Amir, the 25-year-old law student who reportedly confessed to killing Prime Minister Rabin. He purportedly is proud of his deed and says he acted on instructions from God. In that, he is typical of various Middle Eastern assassins, whatever their religion, or, in their more secular manifestation,

of nuts anywhere. The ability of a single deranged person to change the course of history — Lee Harvey Oswald comes to mind — is not limited to any particular place on the globe.

Crazy people and guns are a bad combo anywhere you go. But if Oswald or, for that matter John Hinckley, comes out of a certain American tradition, the loner with a gun, then Yigal Amir comes out of an Israeli one.

Way before the creation of the Jewish state in 1948, way back when Israel existed only in col-

fehouse debates and the rich dreams of impoverished European Jews, an extremist, violence-prone movement had arisen. It was always few in number and operated, usually, only on the margins of Israeli society, but it is neither new nor, as we now know, without consequence.

If anything, the extremist movement is probably larger and more menacing than at any time in Israel's short history. Where once it was somewhat ideological, it is now basically religious. Like Yigal Amir, Baruch Goldstein, the settler who in 1994 murdered 29 Muslims as they prayed at He-

bron's Tomb of the Patriarch, also took instruction from God.

So does Rabbi Moshe Levenger, a major force in the Israeli settlements movement. Back in 1980, he led me through the market at Hebron, wading through Arabs with a contempt and disdain that I found both repulsive and downright scary. Rabbi Levenger acted as if God had assured his safety. I, however, had received no such message.

Rabbi Levenger is an important figure for a number of reasons. In the first place, the settlement he and his wife, Miriam, established in Hebron was clearly illegal. The government moved to protect it anyway and, ultimately, provided it with utilities.

Second, he was later convicted of killing an unarmed Arab in a burst of anger and served no more than 10 weeks in jail. In other words, he has been the personification of the Israeli government's refusal to really go to grips with its extremists. Some politicians admire them; others merely want their votes.

Ironically, Mr. Rabin was in neither camp. He loathed the religious extremists and said so. In that sense, he is their appropriate victim. He understood that the religious fanatics were a threat not only to the peace process but to Israeli democracy itself.

Compromise is essential to any democracy, but zealots do not compromise. In Israel, they are determined not to lose the biblically evocative territory we call the West Bank but which to them is Judea and Samaria. Palestinians claim it, but Abraham walked it.

Sooner or later, Israel must deal with its extremists — and American Jews must cease supporting them.

In his remarks on the Cable News Network, the leader of the opposition Likud party, Benjamin Netanyahu, forthrightly acknowledged that something had to be done, and suggested, in a Nixon-to-China sort of way, that his was the party to do it. Maybe so. It was Likud, after all, that joined with Labor to ban the racist Rabin Kahane from the Knesset.

I cannot say, for reasons both of taste and of fact, that Mr. Rabin's murder was the consequence of the government's coddling of extremists. I do not know. I do know, though, that Yigal Amir is hardly the only zealot in Israel nor, for that matter, the only one entitled to carry a weapon. He and people like him pose a clear danger to the very assumptions of a democratic state, not to mention a Middle East peace.

A good — never mind great — man was murdered Saturday night in Israel. Most of his life he was a soldier and so, in a way, it might be said he died for a cause in which he believed — in this case, a Middle East peace. But the tragedy of Mr. Rabin's death will only be compounded if Jews both in Israel and elsewhere do not confront the menace of extremism.

At this moment, these zealots pose a threat to a democratic and secure Israel that no Arab army can equal.

The Washington Post.

Peace Process?

LIKUD, which vociferously opposed the moves that Yitzhak Rabin's government made with the encouragement of the U.S. administration, will lie low for a time. The shrillness of the political debate was best exemplified by the extreme right, but Likud played its part in seeking to define the peace process as something approaching treason.

Mr. Rabin's assassination has highlighted how deep the divisions in the Israeli camp run. Both Likud and the religious right are convinced that this imperfect peace that is being offered to the Palestinians can only lead to an independent Palestinian state.

S. Nihal Singh, writing in the *Khaleej Times* (Dubai).

THERE is reason to believe and hope that the shock suffered by our nation will be translated into a more lucid understanding of Israel's real choices. Our founders understood that our land is the home of two nations, two faiths, two tongues and two historic experiences. The Palestinian people suffered irreparable loss of territorial opportunities by pretending that their rights totally transcended ours.

Yitzhak Rabin was resolute in his refusal to let his beloved homeland commit a similar error. That he was not allowed to witness the full fruits of his realism is a human tragedy of heartrending scale.

Abba Eban, writing for the *Los Angeles Times* Syndicate.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Artist in Trouble

PARIS — A young artist, well-known to Parisian society, painted two portraits for a gentleman. One was sent to the Salon and rejected. The artist, having to leave Paris, left a friend with instructions that it should be withdrawn from the Palais de l'Industrie. When painter returned, he found a paper which, greatly to his surprise, requested him to send back the picture to its owners. Shortly after he was ordered to attend the Police Commissary who told him "You have a picture which does not belong to you. Return it to the owner or I shall arrest you because you are a dangerous character." The artist, of the artist can be imagined, and he fetched the picture from the Palais de l'Industrie.

1945: Stalin on Holiday

MOSCOW — Generalissimo Josef V. Stalin was present from Red Square today (Nov. 7) as 1 million Russians marched in celebration of the 1917 Revolution. It was the first time in any Muscovite's memory that the generalissimo, who has been vacationing on the coast of the Black Sea, has missed such an important ceremony. In his traditional place in the reviewing stand stood Foreign Commissar Molotov. Generalissimo Stalin was honored in absentia by thunderous cheers and a twenty-one-gun salute.

1920: Misplaced Treaty

WASHINGTON — The Treaty of Versailles, including the Covenant of the League of Na-

Why Keep U.S. Forces in Japan?

By Chalmers Johnson

SANTA MONICA, California — America is behaving like a colonial power straight out of the Victorian era. I am referring to the Defense Department's unshakable determination to keep roughly 100,000 U.S. troops based in Japan and Korea for the next 20 years.

This is untenable, roughly on a par with the Russian generals who did not want to leave Eastern Europe after the Berlin Wall came down.

The Sept. 4 abduction and rape of a 12-year-old Okinawa girl and the arrest of three American servicemen for the crime dramatized the foolishness of the U.S. position. What we are talking about here is extrajurisdiction, one of the most offensive aspects of Western imperialism in East Asia.

"Extra-territoriality" as it is called, meant that if a European, American or Japanese committed a crime in China, the foreigner was turned over to his own consular officials rather than being tried under the law of the country in which the crime was committed. It is not an exaggeration to say that the Chinese revolution was, in part, fought over this demeaning provision.

It reflected the Western belief that Asian law was barbaric and that no "civilized" person should be subjected to it.

China finally got rid of extra-territoriality in 1943, but it still applies today in Japan or South Korea if the suspect is in the American armed forces or the spouse or child of someone who is.

The Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement gives U.S. authorities a right to refuse Japanese investigators' requests

to hand over suspects if they are attached to the military. As a result of the recent protests in Tokyo and Okinawa, the United States and Japan have now signed a "side letter," allowing soldiers accused of crimes against civilians to be placed in Japanese custody before they are indicted, at the request of Japanese investigators. (In South Korea, American military personnel get handed over to local authorities only if they have been convicted by a U.S. military court.)

According to a recent Japanese newspaper poll, only 43.5 percent of Japanese still favor the military agreement with the United States. And who can blame them? James E. Auer, a former special assistant for Japan in the Defense Department's International Security Agency, recently recalled a 1983 incident in which a U.S. missile submarine sliced a Japanese freighter in two, killing the captain and a crewman. Mr. Auer believes that this incident was "healed" by "the obvious sincerity of [then] Ambassador Mike Mansfield who, with tears in his eyes, made a deep bow of apology."

Mr. Auer goes on to suggest that perhaps the current administration should send Hillary Clinton to Okinawa on a similar mission while the president is attending the Asian summit in Osaka later this month.

The Pentagon is looking for a public relations ploy rather than addressing the underlying question: Why must U.S. forces re-

main in Japan for at least another 20 years?

There are many equivocal answers given about how pulling out U.S. troops would destabilize the rest of Asia. The closing of two of the largest American military bases outside the United States (Clark and Subic) without even causing a shiver of instability demonstrates the speciousness of this argument.

The real, but usually unstated, answer is that the Pentagon believes that without a U.S. military presence, Japan would become polarized, unstable and perhaps militaristic again.

Such a view is not only deeply insulting to present-day Japanese. By keeping U.S. troops there, America is almost sure to inflame the nationalism that could help bring its worst fears about. Moreover, it is simply not possible to keep the world's second-largest economy as a permanent ward.

I am not an isolationist and do not propose that the United States abandon a military role in East Asia. What I advocate is that it abandon a worthless and untenable role and seek to achieve an effective one.

The Pentagon has had half a dozen years to start getting its act together since the Berlin Wall came down and the Soviet Union collapsed, but it has remained locked in its Cold War stance. Perhaps the Okinawa rape case has now taken the issue out of its hands.

The writer is president of the Japan Policy Research Institute and author of "Japan: Who Governs?" He contributed this comment to the *Los Angeles Times*.



International Herald Tribune

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OPINION/LETTERS

Canada's Gnawed Cuticles Point Toward the Future

By Margaret Atwood

TORONTO — Like my fellow inhabitants of the R.O.C., or Rest of Canada, I sat glued to the television last Monday night, gnawing my cuticles and watching an election that would decide the future of my country but in which I had no vote.

The result was a squeaker, and we've been squeaking ever since.

The morning after, the R.O.C. had no cuticles, and Quebec had a deeply split society. The pro-separation side was also divided within itself thanks to the bitter speech of Premier Jacques Parizeau, who blamed the "no" victory on the "ethnic" vote and promised "revenge."

This was a heartbreaking blow to those who believed the inclusive campaign rhetoric. Kindly Uncle Jacques was revealed as the chauvinistic spirit of the Quebec of the 1930s, supposed long buried.

The separatists must now sort out what their cause is really endorsing, while others in the province nervously wonder just what sort of brave new country they almost ended up in.

In the R.O.C., there were hand-wringings and puzzled cries of "What do they want?" The question, like Freud's about women, wrongly assumes a homogeneous "they." There is a diversity of desires, as the vote showed.

The issue of survival is always present. Can an island of French, especially one with negative population growth, survive in an enormous sea of English?

But the Québécois are not exotic monsters. At heart, they want what

most people want — jobs, food on the table, a secure future for their children, respect, social justice and cultural continuity, which for Quebec includes the preservation of the language.

The R.O.C. so far has uneasily supported Quebec's right to choose, while reserving its own options should the relationship prove unsalvageable. Would we end up paying for something we didn't want?

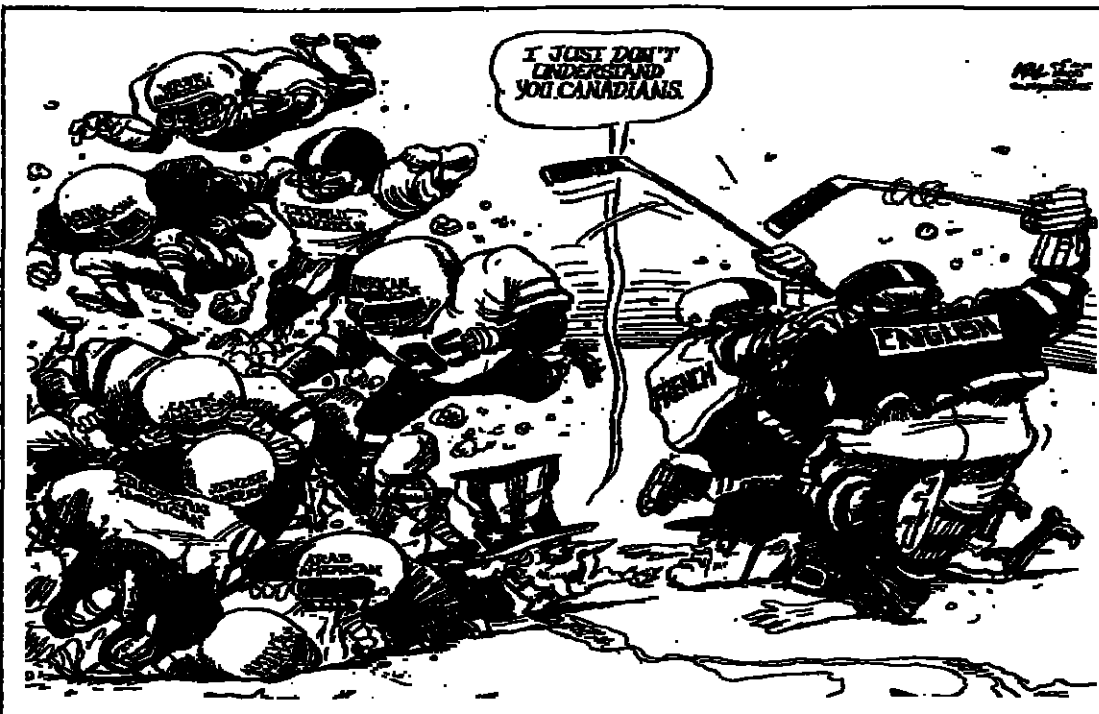
Who would get to keep the kids, the dog and the car, not to mention the national debt and the huge territories within Quebec of the Cree and the Inuit, who voted overwhelmingly in their own referendum to stay within Canada?

If Canada is separable, the native people argued, so is Quebec.

But native separatism — based on land, history and distinctive languages — was dismissed out of hand by the separatists, who were basing their own claims on the same things. In the R.O.C., there were anxieties about a possible civil war.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, having survived a near-death experience, has uttered words of reconciliation.

In the R.O.C., his stock has plummeted. After winning the last election — a snap, since more people in Canada believed Elvis was alive than liked the Tories — he shut himself up in Castle Ottawa and stuck wax in his ears. From time to time he emerged to tell us the sky was blue, although, mind you, we were not to say a word that might upset Quebec.



We R.O.C.ers are well trained. For 30 years we've been told that Quebec is none of our business. We've elected one prime minister after another from Quebec in the belief that this would keep things civil, only to watch them squabble with other Québécois.

Meanwhile, our provincial politicians have, by and large, denied that Quebec has special needs and insisted that all provinces should get exactly the same cookies. One finds similar idiocies congregating around the issue of unisex washrooms. Surely by now we know that "equal" does not always mean "the same."

It's a debate from which the R.O.C. citizens have largely been excluded. This time, however, when we discovered that we were being lied

about — the R.O.C., separatist leaders said, did not care about Quebec and would be glad to see it go — hundreds of thousands of us wrote letters, spoke out and attended huge, spontaneous rallies to show that we did indeed care.

But as one separatist said, "It is not enough to love us; you have to recognize us."

What next? The nine R.O.C. provincial premiers are descending on a weakened Ottawa like vultures sighting a kill. We R.O.C.ers, having narrowly avoided decapitation, now face the death of a thousand cuts.

Canada is already the most decentralized country in the world, but some provincial leaders intend to destroy anything national that's left — health and environment stan-

dards, arts institutions, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. — to get more power for themselves.

But they haven't been listening to the ordinary R.O.C.ers, who want to feel part of a country, not only of a province. A lot of Quebec institutions should be separate. But their counterparts in the R.O.C. should be national. That's what makes sense.

My plan? Each R.O.C. premier should be made to write an essay on the subject of What Canada Means to Me. We citizens will grade them, and those who fail to demonstrate anything but parochial greed are out.

The writer is the author of "The Robber Bride," among other novels. She contributed this comment to The New York Times.

Tune In to Watch the CEO Who Gets \$10,000 a Day

By Ellen Goodman

BOSTON — So, anyway, I have this hot idea for a new daytime TV talk show. Sally, Jenny, Rick, Montel! Let's take a meeting! It's yours for the asking, kids!

Here's the deal. Instead of another dreary program about another husband who cheats on his wife with her transvestite teenage brother — ho hum — how about one that

work, courage, perseverance, honesty, loyalty and faith. But I could hardly find a tale of right, wrong and workplace in the whole lot.

All the virtue lessons these days seem to be about individual behavior. The only time we put a moral grid over corporate behavior is when some company, TV network, or media mogul is mucking about in popular culture.

Remember what Bob Dole asked the folks at Time Warner last August? "Must you debase our nation and threaten our children for the sake of corporate profits?" Now there's a question worthy of my talk show host. Maybe if Senator Dole's president thing doesn't work out, we'll audition him for the job.

But why limit the question to Time Warner? Why limit the talk about values to sex, violence, rap 'n' roll?

In a conversation last week, Labor Secretary Robert Reich — the only man in the administration who still talks this way — said: "If companies have a moral responsibility not to fill the movie theater and airwaves with violence and moral degradation, do they not also have a responsibility to keep workers employed when profits are rising? A moral responsibility to upgrade worker skills, an obligation to fully fund pension plans, to provide health care?"

Applying his own economic book of virtues, he's been trying to raise the minimum wage, get rid of sweatshops and save the Earned Income Tax Credit. He's convinced that there's a "great pool of untapped indignation" about companies that are reaping and not sharing the benefits of an improved economy.

Executives in the 1950s talked almost routinely about their responsibilities to consumers, workers and communities. But today, Mr. Reich says, "the CEOs are remarkably quiet. We are acting as if the economy had nothing to do with values. We need a serious national discussion about corporate responsibility."

What we have instead is a rich, argumentative vocabulary of right and wrong to use when we talk about our personal behavior and culture. When we get to the question of how we relate to each other in our economic life, we are reduced to the flat, parsimonious language of numbers and money.

The name of my ethics hour? You remember: "It's the Economy, Stupid!"

The Boston Globe.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rabin, a Rarity

Unlike so many politicians, Yitzhak Rabin never seemed eager to please or hesitant to call whatever he saw precisely as he saw it. He was, indeed, a multifaceted rarity among statesmen: a totally frank man, without an ounce of deception.

These are the qualities that made it possible for Mr. Rabin to lead a justifiably apprehensive people toward peace. He was trusted simply because he didn't know how to deceive.

Now that Mr. Rabin is gone, what are the prospects that Shimon Peres and others can follow the course? Mr. Peres is committed; the vision is as much his as Mr. Rabin's. But will the people and the Knesset follow? I

predict they will. History on this point is instructive.

When John F. Kennedy was assassinated, his civil rights and economic reform programs were in jeopardy. Lyndon Johnson, appealing to President Kennedy's memory, was more successful in enacting the programs than his predecessor could have been given the divisive politics before his death.

These two tragedies may have a similar legacy: The murderers may be the instruments of the very thing they opposed.

MORRIS B. ABRAM, Geneva.

The writer is the chairman of United Nations Watch.

Double Take

Regarding "Hollywood's New Take on Europe" (Oct. 31):

This otherwise fine story misstates the Motion Picture Association position on audiovisual quotas and subsidies.

There was no withdrawal of the MPA position, which I publicly stated in Beaune, Oct. 27-28, at a gathering of European and American film communities. It is as follows:

1. Quotas don't work. Open markets function more competitively to the ultimate benefit of the national industry.

2. No one country ought to impose upon other countries a model for disciplining the audiovisual

industry that these other countries do not find suitable to their own national needs. Each country ought to determine for itself how it treats audiovisual now and in the future.

3. The debate now going on about quotas and subsidies in Europe is a matter for the European Union to decide; the American industry has no part in that controversy. We will live by whatever audiovisual rules each country constructs.

4. We want to help revitalize the cinema in each member state of the EU. Whenever a national film industry is healthy, the market expands to the benefit of all who compete in that market. Which is why we are contributing to the training of the next generation of European filmmakers.

5. I suggested to the French that their filmmakers would be more usefully served if they concentrated on penetrating the European Union market, larger in population and gross domestic product than the United States. French film artists are among the best in the world.

Meanwhile, we want to be collaborative and cooperative with each European country's cinema and its creative artists.

We look to the future, not to the past.

JACK VALENTI, Washington.

The writer is chairman and chief executive of the Motion Picture Association.



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Style



Mizrahi's cotton and nylon striped dress; center, Beene's single-strap jumper, top, and hound's-tooth check suit; Klein's three-colored jersey dress.

Defining the Modern Look Without Frills

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — With their long-legged stride, models have walked miles of runway in four cities to show off thousands of high-fashion outfits. Yet as the New York shows closed the international spring/summer 1996 season on Friday, they raised the same question posed on the opening day in Milan on Oct. 5: What's modern?

Three American designers — Geoffrey Beene, Calvin Klein and Donna Karan — addressed that issue and offered modernity according to their own aesthetics. All showed coherence and design integrity in their collections — but without offering any radical new direction.

So the modernity question can be answered more easily in the negative than the positive. Modern means dumping the baggage of the past — retro looks are mercifully on the wane. Modern means never constricting the body, with a focus on easy jackets, slim pants, short skirts and dresses in stretch jersey fabrics. Modern means no fuss and minimal decoration — just a few basic shapes and the accent on color, sheen, texture and some graphic pattern.

Modern means minimalism — at least on the runways and for the fashion audience — both accessory-free zones. But what's new and forward-looking in all this — given that the concepts of fashion modernism and purity first appeared in the 1920s? Not much, apart from the 1990s' high-tech fabrics or computer-generated prints. And so it was at the New York shows, where Klein just washed soft color over his pale palette as his statement of the season, and Karan made simplicity her mantra and a tubular skirt her fashion contribution.

"I've done color — you won't see it again in a long time," said Klein after his show, which closed with slender mat jersey dresses in dawn-sky streaks of color: pale yellow shading through aqua and sky blue or a shell pink with parchment and watery lime. A new basic shade was the flesh-colored "nude," but there was one strong color: glowing coral for a tunic and pants, belted at the hip line.

Pulling down the center of fashion gravity was Klein's minor change of silhouette: As well as showing low-slung belted and hipster pants (a general trend that started in Europe), he might shade a band of darker color below the waist.

From the show's opening of fitted blouse over pants in sky-blue jersey, Klein got his color and fabric message across. Often the jersey was used for dresses, like elongated polo shirts. Over-the-knee hemlines made them a tad dowdy, in spite of the pretty pastel colors. Occasionally Klein used subtle decoration: a pallid print of flowers or more graphic pinstripes and plaids for tailoring. Flat silver buckles appeared on the hip belts and solid, square-heeled shoes.

After the defiant plainness of previous seasons, the look was simple, rather than stark, especially at night when the pastel jersey dresses were like tank tops grown down to the ankles. Klein, who courts controversy with sexually charged advertising, made his womanly fashion statement pretty bland.

Karan and Klein's aesthetics seem to be growing closer. Both used double-faced wools for easy tailoring; both majored in mat jersey and showed simple dresses. But Karan inevitably designs from a woman's point of view, and as she walked down the runway clutching a bright coat across her body, it crystallized their different

perspectives. She was struggling to make the new simplicity work for the lumps-and-bumps woman in the real world.

The white passage that started Karan's show has become a cliché of fashion purity this season. But Karan did it well with her double-face wool jackets fastened with a single hook or

the suit — it's beginning to look like a uniform," said Beene, who was dressed in a T-shirt and wearing a lei. "I'm backing off from the suit because it stems from menswear and I think that women have earned the right to be themselves."

The dress was therefore the message: sliced from slithering jersey, printed in waves of color or the classic American shirtwaist patterned with graphic dots. Jumper dresses, suspended from one strap, made striking geometry in the still-life display on mannequins whose patterned or colored bodies created a backdrop.

The American Craft Museum was the show's venue — a significant choice for this collection, which formed a trilogy with previous shows devoted to design and dance movement.

"This one is for the craft," said Beene, pointing up the intricate but never fussy stitches and trimming. "It is a tribute to my workers and I wanted people to see the clothes close up."

Isaac Mizrahi is a young designer, but his culture seems rooted in the past. The show was peopled with his familiar fashion icons: C.Z. Guest, 1950s movie stars, his mother in her Norman Norell dresses. This sense of the ghosts of fashion past was reinforced by the models' white makeup and by beehive hairstyles that managed to be both formal and messy.

The clothes seemed a hybrid of the modern — pantsuits, trench coats or a sleek raw silk jacket — and the prissy, as in shirtwaister dresses in fluttering fabrics and sack dresses with a drawstring dropped below the waist.

Mizrahi said that gauzy insect wings and their diverse colors had inspired the collection. That sounded good in Mizrahi's witty program notes featuring "Lady Bugs, Social Butterflies and Insect Appeal" and in descriptions of "beetleskin" fabrics.

This insect world was fun when wasp stripes appeared on cotton separates and produced pretty evening dresses in white organdy fluttering like butterfly wings. But these were interspersed with crystal beaded gowns apparently inspired by old Grace Kelly movies and nothing to do with how modern women dress.

The overall trend of the New York spring/summer season was a shift in emphasis from tailoring to dressmaking and from mannish suits to more feminine dresses. But the story was also about contrasts: jackets either short and boxy or long and slim; dresses as geometric shifts or bias-cut slithers; hemlines very short or very long (forget the midway); fabrics either stiff and shiny shantung or fluid and mat viscose and jersey.

THE lack of any strong fashion direction, except toward color and perhaps print, may leave women underwhelmed. Since New York shows moved into tents and featured front-row celebrities, they seem to be playing to gossip columnists and television cameras.

Fashion as a spectator sport rather than the business of buying clothes is a worldwide phenomenon that raises concern among professionals. For all the month-long fashion hoopla, retail figures for the exceptionally mild October — traditionally the big-selling month — do not suggest that the modern woman is rushing out to refill her closet.

American retailers reported last week dismal October sales 3.1 percent below those of a year earlier, with some clothing companies down 5 percent. In a sign of the times, Manhattan stores were discounting winter coats by 20 or even 50 percent — before the autumn leaves and the month of October had quite turned.

Donna Karan's silk clutch wrap and hip-slung pants.

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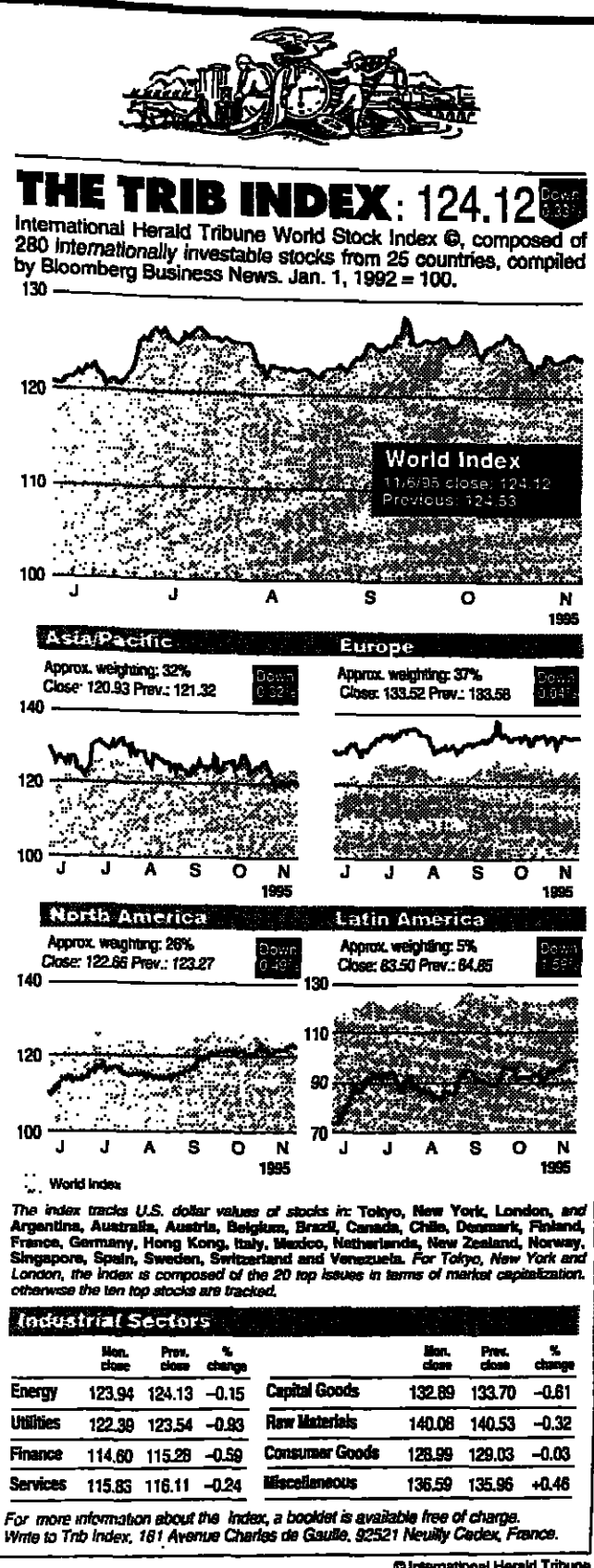
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Busy Signal in On-Line Industry Chaos Highlighted by Latest Exit From European Outfit

By Nathaniel C. Nash
New York Times Service

LUXEMBOURG — The heated contest to put Europeans on line — and thus generate enormous profits — grew more chaotic last week, when one of Germany's largest publishers announced it was scrapping plans to invest in the Continent's premier homegrown on-line service.

Axel Springer AG, publisher of the mass-circulation newspaper *Bild* Zeitung, became the third major publisher to abandon the fledgling alliance when it announced last week that it would not take a 10 percent stake in Europe Online SA.

Springer officials said the decision had come after they had been denied certain management and board control that they wanted as a condition of their investment.

Pearson PLC of Britain, a founding partner, is selling its shares in Luxembourg-based Europe Online. Matra Hachette SA, the publisher of *Paris Match*, has already pulled out.

Analysts and Europe Online officials say the 17-month-old enterprise, whose partners have put \$200 million into it, is not in danger of collapsing. It is scheduled to begin offering its service early next year.

"We are well funded, and we are preparing for launch, as you can see by all of the equipment and the activity," said Candace Johnson, founder and member of the board, as she strolled through the company's offices, filled with young employees installing huge switching sys-

tems or working at computer stations.

"We have loyal backers who believe in the business and see the enormous potential of this medium and who have been with us from the beginning," she said.

But they all seem to agree that publishers, telecommunication companies and investors are struggling over how to attract even a small fraction of Europe's 430 million people to the on-line world.

While a third of American households have a computer, in Germany and France it is only one in seven. When it comes to commercial on-line services, the discrepancy is even larger.

Services such as America Online Inc., Prodigy and CompuServe have almost 7 million customers, while subscribers in Europe number fewer than 1 million. Most of those belong to a service created by Deutsche Telekom, T-Online, that gives them access mainly to home banking.

But odds are that it will be a big growth industry. The European Commission estimates that by 2000, on-line companies will be billing \$6.5 billion a year.

"There is definitely a slow adoption rate in Europe for these services," said Bob Fritz, vice president of Gemini Consulting's office near Frankfurt. "Right now the home PC penetration rate is lower in almost every country in Europe than in the United States. But that doesn't mean it is going to be slow forever."

The struggle seems to be on two fronts.

One is whether the European on-line

industry will be dominated by American manufacturers and marketers, or whether Europe will be able to produce its own industry leaders who will manufacture and sell the technology involved.

Apart from Europe Online, which is almost entirely in European hands, Americans are the governing force here.

Bertelsmann AG, Germany's largest publishing house, has teamed up with America Online and will offer its service starting at the end of the year.

CompuServe, a unit of H&R Block Inc., has about 200,000 subscribers, analysts say, almost half of them in Britain.

Microsoft Network, which comes as part of Microsoft Corp.'s new Windows 95 operating system, is beginning to make big inroads in Europe.

The second issue is that no one seems to have shown yet just what will get Europeans to log on to their computers at home to read the news, find out about the weather or simply chat with others.

That business challenge is further complicated by the growing dominance of the Internet, which is essentially free, as well as expected software packages that would let publishers bill computer users who use the Internet to read their material.

But the Europe Online defections seem to indicate that publishers will not want to limit their material to one on-line service and that almost all will eventually make their material available on the Internet. Thus, their interest in owning a network such as Europe Online is diminished.

BA Earnings Increase 12% As Traffic Soars

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — British Airways PLC said Monday its profit for the second quarter rose 12 percent, to £295 million (\$465.9 million), spurred by surging passenger traffic during the busy summer travel season.

The airline credited some of the results to a "buoyant" global economic climate that lifted all kinds of travel. Travel on the supersonic Concorde in first class and premium club classes was up 10 percent, while costs fell about £75 million, the company said.

BA said its revenue rose slightly to £2.13 billion during the quarter, which ended Sept. 30, from £2.02 billion a year earlier.

The board increased the interim dividend by 10 percent, to 385 pence a share.

The share price fell 7 pence to 474 in London.

take over as chief executive officer, said London-Paris travel had risen 30 percent between April and July.

"We welcome the fact that Eurostar has stimulated the travel market," he said.

The airline said pretax earnings for its first half had risen 23 percent, to £323 million, while sales climbed 6.5 percent, to £4.03 billion.

At a press conference, Mr. Ayling took aim at British Airways' bureaucracy and its "meetings culture," saying he was looking for ways to make the organization quicker to make decisions.

"People do still feel the company has more bureaucracy than is justified," Mr. Ayling said. "I'm very sympathetic to these points."

(Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters)

Piracy Charged To Hong Kong

HONG KONG — The United States is alarmed about organized distribution and marketing of pirated software in Hong Kong, a senior U.S. trade official said Monday.

"We are very distressed to note the level of piracy in Hong Kong itself appears to have accelerated dramatically," said the official, who requested anonymity. "It isn't simply a Chinese problem."

The official said the Hong Kong government had been responsive to U.S. concerns, "but nonetheless, the problem exists that there is apparently organized distribution and marketing of pirated CDs and CD-ROMs and pirated software."

Pirated software is often exported via Hong Kong, he said.

German Banker Calls for Delay in EMU

Knight-Ridder

FRANKFURT — The launch of a single European currency, scheduled for 1999, should be postponed to ward off the threat of a divided European Union, Wolfgang Gröner, head of the Association of German Savings and Loans Banks, said Monday.

If the convergence criteria and schedule in the Maastricht treaty were strictly adhered to, a European monetary union would include few members and could divide the EU politically and economically, he said.

The introduction of the single currency should be delayed until a sufficient number of EU countries meet the economic convergence criteria, he said. At the same time

the criteria must not be undermined, or an inflationary, soft-currency union would be the result.

"A softening of the criteria would be treason against the German saver and the whole German economy," he said.

European monetary union only made sense when it was linked to political union, Mr. Gröner said. In the absence of the political union, a European union should be postponed until members' economies and monetary and fiscal policies had converged sufficiently.

Mr. Gröner said there should be no move to a monetary union without Italy, France and Belgium.

"Just think what kind of destructive potential it would bear if possibly France but also Italy and Belgium — founding members of the European Community — were not members of EMU," he said.

Initial nonparticipants would probably have to be supported by a "super European Monetary System," which would have to make "billions" available to intervene in favor of the soft currencies of countries left out, Mr. Gröner said.

Meanwhile, Germany's opposition Social Democratic Party proposed to make tighter conditions for joining the single currency its official policy, Reuters reported from Bonn.

Thinking Ahead / Commentary

Time for a New Atlantic Partnership

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Now that the Cold War is over, trans-Atlantic relations badly need a shot in the arm. No longer unified by a common enemy, there is a danger that the United States and Europe will drift apart.

That much is commonly agreed on both sides of the Atlantic — as is the idea that the new links should be economic. In the fiercely competitive world that is now being born, a strong economy will be just as important as a strong military for national security.

But disagreements over the scope of the planned new Atlantic initiative are threatening to dilute its impact. A summit meeting between President Bill Clinton and European Union leaders in Madrid next month, intended to relaunch the relationship, looks likely to be a disappointment.

There is no shortage of ambitious proposals — ranging from calls for a new Atlantic Community, covering both economics and defense, to plans for a trans-Atlantic free trade area, or TAFTA.

It seems anomalous, to say the least, that the United States should be committed to huge free trade zones in Asia and Latin America, but not to free trade with its traditional Western allies in Europe.

There is wide approval for a recent comment by Newt Gingrich, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, that new trans-Atlantic ventures should make

Americans and Europeans excited at being on the same team. "Because," Mr. Gingrich said, "if we're not actively on the same team in a practical way, we will inevitably, in the long run, not be on the same team."

Nevertheless, as the Madrid meeting approaches, excuses are already being advanced for why it may not amount to

The U.S. is growing more multicultural, while Europe is becoming more inward-looking and nationalistic.

very much. The European Union, it is said, cannot be expected to endorse grandiose new trans-Atlantic goals before it has completed the review of its own plans for closer union due to start next year and continue well into 1997. Washington is similarly paralyzed by the approach of next year's presidential elections.

The TAFTA proposal has run into heavy fire. Some have denounced it as an attempt by the world's rich countries to gang up against the poor and a threat to the multilateral trading system. Others warn it would simply reopen bitter disputes between Washington and Paris over agriculture and Hollywood movies.

Such objections are not inseparable. It

is rather old-fashioned to accuse the United States and Europe of ganging up on the poor when the world's fastest growing countries are in Asia, and China and India will soon be economic superpowers.

But the argument is moot. To the private delight of some in Washington, TAFTA has been killed by France. What is likely to emerge from Madrid is some kind of trans-Atlantic economic area, involving practical cooperation in fields such as product testing and standards.

It will be a kind of holding operation, intended to keep the two sides engaged until more ambitious plans can perhaps be laid some time in the future. But the Atlantic countries no longer have the luxury of taking it easy.

The United States is rapidly growing more multicultural and less Eurocentric, while Europe is becoming more inward-looking and nationalistic. On both sides, the generations that fought World War II together are fading from the scene. There are sharp differences on how to deal with Japan and China.

Yet Europeans and Americans still face remarkably similar problems and share many of the same values. When they work together at world level, they usually get their way.

But that is going to be less and less true. Some experts give the West only 15 years to ensure that the emerging global economy will be run according to Western free-market rules. If that's what the West wants, the time for a new Atlantic partnership is now.

1st Interstate Shuns Wells for New Suitor

Bloomberg Business News

MINNEAPOLIS — First Interstate Bancorp. on Monday rejected the hostile takeover bid Wells Fargo & Co. made in October, saying it would merge instead with First Bank System Inc.

First Interstate, which is based in Los Angeles, and Minneapolis-based First Bank System valued the merger at \$10.3 billion, or \$132.275 a share. Wells Fargo's bid was valued at \$10.1 billion.

While searching for a bid to compete with that of Wells Fargo, First Interstate opened its books to Northwest Corp. of Minneapolis and BancOne Corp. of Columbus, Ohio, as well as First Bank System.

"Our board concluded that the First Bank System proposal represents the best available alternative," said William E.B. Siart, First Interstate's chairman. "The hostile nature" of the Wells Fargo proposal as well as plans for job cuts contributed to the decision to reject that bid, he said.

Analysts said it was unlikely that Wells Fargo would give up without a fight. People familiar with the bank said last month it would consider raising its bid.

Wells Fargo has a market value of \$10.3 billion, while First Bank is valued at \$6.8 billion. Wells and First Interstate have many overlapping businesses, so Wells could pare costs more easily than could First Bank System, analysts said. Wells Fargo executives were not available for comment.

On the New York Stock Exchange, First Interstate stock closed down 87.5 cents at \$126.875, while Wells Fargo shares fell \$1.625, to \$210.625. Stock in First Bank System fell \$1, to \$49.875.

Under terms of the agreement, First Bank System will exchange 2.6 of its common shares for each share of First Interstate.

A merger of First Interstate and First Bank would form a company with assets of

\$92.4 billion, 1,514 branches and businesses in 21 states serving 7.6 million households. The new company would be named First Interstate and have its headquarters in Minneapolis, although most of its business would be run from Los Angeles.

First Bank System's chairman and chief executive, John F. Grundhofer, would hold the same titles in the new company. Mr. Siart would become president and chief operating officer.

The companies plan to pare annual costs by \$500 million. They said they expected the combination to lift earnings per share by 18 percent in the first year.

Wells Fargo had said it would slash costs by \$800 million after combining with First Interstate.

The First Bank System offer is better than Wells Fargo's because it concentrates on "creating long-term growth," rather than "manufacturing gains from contraction and cost-cutting alone," Mr. Siart said.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates									
	\$	£	DM	¥	₹	₪	₹	₹	₹
American	1.0000	0.6936	1.9360	106.46	24.636	3.6663	166.37	203.71	2.4835
British	1.4557	1.0000	2.6356	153.75	35.480	5.3091	246.36	305.12	3.7466
French	0.6559	0.3756	1.0000	65.591	15.166	2.2037	103.75	127.76	1.5775
German	0.5181	0.3005	0.3756	1.0000	22.360	3.3633	166.37	203.71	2.4835
Italian	1.9360	1.3760	1.9360	106.46	24.636	3.6663	166.37	203.71	2.4835
Japanese	0.0094	0.0065	0.0065	1.0000	22.360	3.3633	166.37	203.71	2.4835
Spanish	166.37	103.75	127.76	203.71	2.4835	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Swiss	1.3363	0.7936	1.3363	75.480	17.364	2.5835	127.76	157.75	1.9360
U.S. dollar	1.0000	0.6936	1.9360	106.46	24.636	3.6663	166.37	203.71	2.4835

Eurocurrency Deposits									
	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	10 years
American	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
British	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
French	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
German	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Italian	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Japanese	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Spanish	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Swiss	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
U.S. dollar	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50

Key Money Rates									
	Close	Prev	Settle	Open	High	Low	Settle	Open	High
U.S. dollar	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
British	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
French	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
German	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Italian	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Japanese	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Spanish	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
Swiss	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50
U.S. dollar	5.50	5.75	6.00	6.25	6.50	6.75	7.00	7.25	7.50

Forward Rates									
	30-day	60-day	90-day	180-day	360-day	540-day	720-day	900-day	1080-day
American	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
British	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
French	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
German	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Italian	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Japanese	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Spanish	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Swiss	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
U.S. dollar	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000

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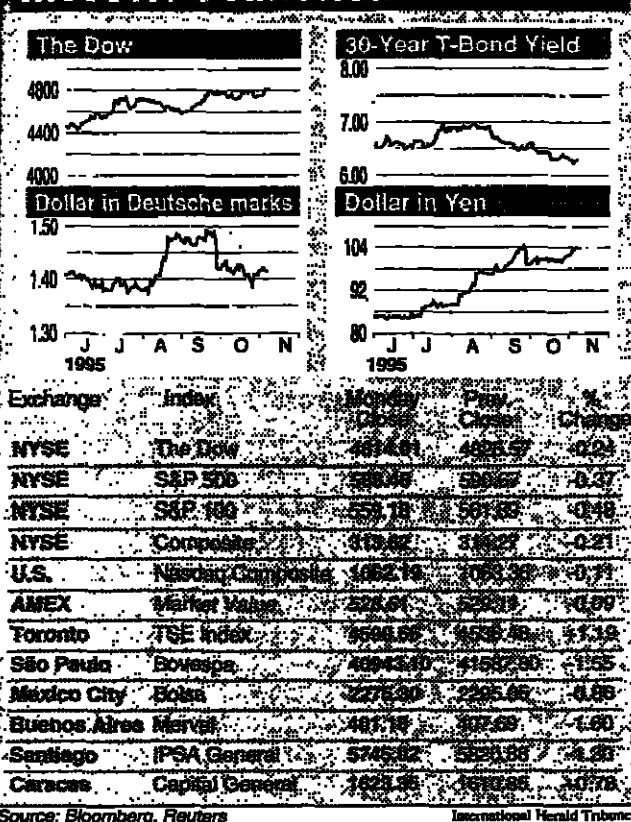
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Herald Tribune

THE AMERICAS

Investor's America



International Paper Makes Offer

PURCHASE, N.Y. — International Paper Co., the world's biggest paper products company, said Monday it had offered to buy the forest products company Federal Paper Board Co. in a deal worth \$3.5 billion including debt.

International Paper said it would pay \$55 in cash or stock for each share of Federal Paper Board. That part of the deal is worth \$2.6 billion. The balance consists of Federal Paper's debt that International Paper would assume as part of the arrangement.

The \$55 a share offer represents a 22 percent premium over Federal Paper's closing price on the New York Stock Exchange on Friday of \$45.125. On Monday, Federal Paper shares surged \$6.50, to \$51.625, while shares of International Paper fell \$1.36 to \$36.125.

"At \$55, how can I say it's not a good deal?" said Thomas Henderson, the portfolio manager for the Lord Abbett AF-

iliated Fund, which holds about 1 million Federal Paper Board shares.

Federal Paper, based in Montvale, New Jersey, makes paperboard used in boxes for cigarettes, laundry detergent and other consumer products. Federal Paper had revenue of \$1.57 billion last year. In addition to its U.S. mills in North Carolina and Georgia, it owns more than a half-million acres of nearby timberland.

International Paper had sales of nearly \$1.5 billion last year from a wide range of businesses, including manufacturing printing papers, packaging and forest products. It has manufacturing operations in 28 countries, and it exports products to more than 130 countries.

International Paper has been looking for acquisitions to expand its business. Earlier this year, the company failed in a hostile bid for the Swiss paper and fibers company Holvis Holzstoff AG.

Merging this outstanding forest products company will help us enhance our

position as one of the industry's most efficient producers," said John A. Georges, the chairman of International Paper.

Federal Paper said the deal, which would make it a wholly owned subsidiary of International Paper, would be an excellent value for its stockholders.

International Paper said it expected the deal, which is subject to approval by Federal Paper's shareholders and regulatory authorities, to close in the first quarter of 1996.

Investors had been expecting a bid for Federal Paper. The company's shares rose 14 percent last week, after trading as low as \$34.625 in the past three months.

Federal Paper Board shareholders will be asked to choose whether to receive their payment in cash or International Paper stock, with the limitation that not more than 1.612 and not less than 1.275 International Paper shares are issued for each Federal Paper Board share.

(AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

Microsoft Sell-Off Leads Market Down

NEW YORK — Despite a slew of corporate acquisitions, stock prices declined Monday, led by a decline in Microsoft shares.

"If you are lucky enough to have something in your portfolio that is being taken over, you're doing fine," said Arthur Mischeletti of Bear, Stearns & Co.

Among the gainers were NetScout, Federal Paper Board and Pratt & Lambert.

But the Dow Jones industrial average closed down 11.56 points, at 4,814.01, in late trading, and declining issues led declines by an 11-to-10 ratio on the Big Board.

Most other major indexes also declined.

Despite the decline in the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index, computer stocks were mostly lower after Goldman Sachs dropped Microsoft from its priority list to its recommended list, predicting slower earnings growth in 1997.

The most actively traded stock on the Nasdaq, Microsoft, closed down 2 at \$74, and it dragged other leading technology issues down.

Among the losers were Micron Technology, which closed down 4 at \$44 and was the most actively traded issue on the Big Board, and International Business Machines, down 7/8 at \$100 5/8. Oracle Corp. fell 9/16 to \$45 11/16, and Intel dropped 1 to \$71 1/4.

"A lot of people use it as their market indicator," Arnold Owen of SoundView Financial said of Microsoft.

But Apple Computer rose 1/4 to \$38 1/4.

Bonds declined, with the benchmark 30-year Treasury closing down 7/32 at 107 23/32. That raised its yield to 6.29 percent, from 6.28 percent Friday.

Banking stocks rose after First Interstate Bank agreed to be acquired by First Bank System for \$10.3 billion in stock,

which slightly exceeds a hostile bid from Wells Fargo.

First Interstate shares initially rose sharply on the news, and other bank stocks followed. Citicorp closed up 3/8 to \$68, and Banc One rose 3/8 to \$61 7/8.

But Wells Fargo plummeted, and First Bank System closed down.

"It doesn't hurt any time you get a valuation like that of a similar company in the industry," John Burnett, a bank stock trader at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities, said of the First Interstate sale.

International Paper shares fell after the company agreed to purchase Federal Paper Board for \$2.6 billion in cash and stock.

But Federal Paper soared, as did another acquisition, NetScout, which gained 6 7/8 to \$52 1/8.

Compaq shares fell 1 7/8 to \$4 5/8 after the computer maker announced it was acquiring the maker of computer network equipment for \$372 million.

Sherwin-Williams said it was acquiring Pratt & Lambert, which sent the smaller paintmaker's shares soaring 13 7/8 to \$4 3/8 but left shares of its new parent down 1/8 at \$37 1/2.

Procter & Gamble shares dropped 1/4 to \$2 after Scott filed a suit against the company for its advertisements in Canada comparing its Bounty paper towels with a Scott product.

Caterpillar shares closed up 1 1/8 to \$7 1/8, helping bolster the Dow.

The large number of acquisitions bolstered equities overall, analysts said, because they signaled that companies considered stocks still reasonably priced. But mergers are not always a sign that stock prices have further to go, Mr. Mischeletti warned.

"Mergers and acquisitions bother me," he said. Companies "tend to overpay, and then they have to absorb the acquisition. When you see a lot, it's usually toward the end of the bull market."

(Bloomberg, AP)

Cordis Gives In to a Sweetened J&J Bid

MIAMI — Cordis Corp. agreed Monday to be acquired by Johnson & Johnson for \$109 a share, or \$1.8 billion, in stock, after the medical products maker raised its hostile offer.

The price is \$200 million, or 9 percent higher than Johnson & Johnson's original \$100-a-share cash offer on Oct. 19, which the board of the Miami-based maker of medical devices rejected.

The board also turned down an alternative proposal for a friendly takeover of \$105 a share.

The higher offer had been widely ex-

pected by analysts since Johnson & Johnson had expressed a strong desire to complete a deal and had gone to court to try and strike down Cordis's defenses against the hostile bid.

Johnson & Johnson wants to buy Cordis for its catheters and angioplasty balloons. Those devices are used to clear blocked arteries and help position Johnson & Johnson's heart stent, which helps keep blood vessels open.

The new company will conduct its business under the name Cordis, a Johnson & Johnson Co., and its headquarters will remain in Miami.

"The combined company will have a product line of exceptional quality and depth and will serve customers on a worldwide basis," said Robert Strauss, chairman and president of Cordis. "We will have the technical expertise and resources to lead new and innovative cardiology developments and provide enhanced value to hospitals, physicians and patients."

Ralph Larsen, Johnson & Johnson's chairman, said the deal with Cordis "will create one of the leading worldwide vascular disease management companies, enhancing value for both companies' shareholders."

(AP, Bloomberg)

Debt Debate Weighs Down the Dollar

NEW YORK — The dollar fell Monday on concern that the United States might default on its debt as budget negotiations bogged down.

Fears of a default escalated after the U.S. Treasury postponed this week's scheduled \$31.5 billion borrowing after President Bill Clinton and congressional Republicans failed to agree on raising the \$4.9 trillion debt limit.

The dollar fell to 1.4130 Deutsche marks from 1.4167 DM on Friday, and to 103.350 yen from 103.885 yen. It fell to 4.8915

French francs from 4.8952 francs and to 1.1375 Swiss francs from 1.1400 francs. The pound edged up to \$1.5804 from \$1.5800.

"The problem with the dollar is that there's a risk there will be a default," a trader at Nomura Bank said. "But as this is a bit of an uncharted territory, people are erring on the side of caution and only paring their long dollar positions."

An unprecedented default, even for a

few days, would damage the U.S. government's creditworthiness, raise U.S. borrowing costs and hurt demand for U.S. assets, including the dollar, many analysts say. The Treasury faces a \$25 billion payment to bond holders on Nov. 15.

Fresh weakness in the Mexican peso also weighed on the dollar, analysts said. The peso slumped amid persistent concern that the Mexican government may lack the ability to lift the economy out of its doldrums.

The dollar rose to 7.40 pesos from 7.26 pesos Friday.

(Bloomberg, AP, Reuters)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

WORLD STOCK MARKETS																													
Johannesburg				London				Paris				Stockholm				Vienna				Wellington				Zurich					
High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.		
Johannesburg				London				Paris				Stockholm				Vienna				Wellington				Zurich					
Anglo-Am	218	216.50	217	214.50	Anglo-Gold	288	286	287	284	Anglo-P	288	286	287	284	Anglo-T	288	286	287	284	Anglo-U	288	286	287	284	Anglo-V	288	286	287	284
Anglo-W	288	286	287	284	Anglo-X	288	286	287	284	Anglo-Y	288	286	287	284	Anglo-Z	288	286	287	284	Anglo-AA	288	286	287	284	Anglo-AB	288	286	287	284
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Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284
Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284
Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284
Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284
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Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284	Anglo-BB	288	286	287	284
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NASDAQ

Monday's 4 p.m.
The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
A											
12	100	95	IBM	3.00	2.8	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Microsoft	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Oracle	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Cisco	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Sun	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	HP	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Compaq	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	PerkinElmer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Amgen	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
B											
12	100	95	Johnson & Johnson	2.00	2.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Pfizer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Merck	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Abbott	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Eli Lilly	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Amgen	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
C											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
D											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
E											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
F											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
G											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
H											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
I											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100	95	95	0
11	90	85	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	15	90	90	85	85	0
10	80	75	Roche	0.00	0.0	18	80	80	75	75	0
9	70	65	Novartis	0.00	0.0	20	70	70	65	65	0
8	60	55	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	22	60	60	55	55	0
7	50	45	Roche	0.00	0.0	24	50	50	45	45	0
6	40	35	Novartis	0.00	0.0	26	40	40	35	35	0
5	30	25	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	28	30	30	25	25	0
4	20	15	Roche	0.00	0.0	30	20	20	15	15	0
3	10	5	Novartis	0.00	0.0	32	10	10	5	5	0
2	5	0	Boehringer	0.00	0.0	34	5	5	0	0	0
1	0	0	Roche	0.00	0.0	36	0	0	0	0	0

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100s	High	Low	Latest	Chg
J											
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis	0.00	0.0	12	100	100			
12	100	95	Novartis								

ASIA/PACIFIC

Music and Games Help Sony Unit Post Rise in Profit

TOKYO — Sony Music Entertainment Inc. said Monday that strong sales of Western and Japanese music helped profit rise 7 percent in the six months ended Sept. 30.

Musical sales, as well as an increase in revenue from video games, offset a decline in revenue from home-video sales.

Japan's largest record company posted a current, or pretax, profit for the half of 10.1 billion yen (\$97.2 million), compared with 9.4 billion yen a year earlier. Sales rose 6 percent, to 53.06 billion yen. Stock in Sony Music rose 70 yen, to 4,400.

But shares in Sony Corp., which controls Sony Music, fell 40 to 4,830 on news that the company's only operating lithium-ion battery plant had been closed after a fire.

Sales of Western music albums, which make up 22 percent of total sales, rose 7 percent, to 11.81 billion yen. Sony Music records such artists as the pop singers Mariah Carey, Cyndi Lauper, Michael Jackson, Billy Joel and Pink Floyd.

Home video sales fell to 2.91 billion yen from 4.60 billion yen, mainly because of a lack of hit videos by Japanese musicians.

Sony said it expected profit for the full year to decline because of an increase in advertising costs. The company plans to introduce more artists than in the previous year and will have to spend more money promoting them, a spokesman said.

Separately, a fire on Saturday seriously damaged Sony's only factory for a new type of rechargeable battery used in portable electronic devices.

Sony said the fire had damaged two floors of a three-story building at a plant in Koriyama, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) north of Tokyo, belonging to the company's Sony Energytech KK unit.

The building houses Sony's only manufacturing site for lithium-ion batteries. Sony has about a 70 percent share of the estimated \$192 million world market for such batteries.

A spokesman for Sony said it was too early to tell the extent of the damage, how long the plant would remain closed and what effect the fire would have on production. An investigation into the fire started Monday.

Analysts said the damage was likely to be limited to a temporary loss of market share.

"There may be some effect on Sony's camcorder sales and on makers of cellular phones," said Hitoshi Kuriyama, an analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities (Japan) Ltd. But Sony is set to open a second plant in March, so the fire is not likely to be a serious blow, he said.

Lithium-ion batteries are important to the electronics industry because they are smaller and lighter and last longer than conventional batteries.

Several Japanese and U.S. concerns have begun producing the batteries in the past year.

PanAmSat Has Japan License

Bloomberg Business News

TOKYO — PanAmSat Corp. on Monday became the first U.S. company to receive a license to provide satellite services directly to Japanese customers.

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications granted the license to PanAmSat as part of a move to open the telecommunications market.

Fred Landman, chief executive of PanAmSat, said the Japanese market was undergoing "a profound liberalization." He said the license would "allow us for the first time to interact directly with customers in Japan to provide telecommunications services."

A 'Daiwa Diet' for Japan's Banks?

Post-Scandal Retrenchment May Start a Healthy Trend

TOKYO — A drastic cutback planned for the overseas network of Daiwa Bank Ltd. may mark the start of a major retrenchment by Japanese banks at home and abroad.

While punitive sanctions by U.S. and Japanese authorities over a bond-trading scandal forced Daiwa to cut back, economic pressures will prove just as powerful in making other banks slim down, analysts say.

"Banks with weaker financial health will have to cut down or even close down their business overseas at the same time as they are forced to reorganize their domestic units," said Katsuhito Sasajima, a senior analyst at Nikko Research Center, a unit of Nikko Securities Co.

So far, Japanese banks have largely resisted pressure to cut back the vast overseas network they built up during the years of cheap credit in the late 1980s, when they were a major presence in global banking. Fear of losing face among their competitors may have been one reason.

But two catalysts for change have emerged in recent months, and these could trigger a wave of retrenchment as cutbacks by one bank encourage others to take similar steps, analysts said.

One trigger is the Daiwa Bank scandal, which has pushed up the "Japan premium," the extra amount that Japanese banks pay to raise funds abroad because they are seen as extra risky. If Japanese banks want to restore their credibility, they must take action to show they are improving, Mr. Sasajima said.

The other trigger is the recent decision to liquidate seven of Japan's debt-ridden housing-loan concerns, which is likely to put banks under even heavier financial pressure. The liquidations, expected to begin as soon as early next year, could mean billions of dollars of write-offs at major banks.

Yoshiro Ikuyo, vice president at Smith Barney International, said he expected the number of Japanese banks operating abroad to fall to below 20 in the medium term from more than 50 now. Except for the top banks, most Japanese banks now operating abroad do not make a great deal of profit on their overseas lending businesses, he said.

Many regional Japanese banks are likely to close down branches in Europe and some U.S. cities unless their main clients have major business there, analysts said.

Even some of Japan's largest banks could decide to give up operations in Europe such as trading in Eurobonds, currency and stocks, analysts said. They may also stop participating in project finance deals in which they are not leading syndicate members.

Spokesmen for many major banks said they were not considering a reduction in overseas business. But sources close to

Fuji Bank Ltd., for example, said last week that the bank would cut its pension-fund management and investment-advisory businesses in New York.

Retrenchment at home also seems inevitable, analysts said. "What banks need to do is to reduce their domestic employees quite sharply," said David Threadgold at Barclays de Zoete Wedd Securities (Japan) Ltd. Japan's 150 banks had 460,000 employees as of March 1995, according to an industry association.

Mr. Ikuyo said combined personnel costs of Japanese banks had risen by nearly \$3 billion in the last five years. They must now cut personnel costs by far more than that, he said. "Banks need to reduce work forces by 10 percent or cut employees' salaries," he said.

Banks are unlikely to start laying off employees at once, as that is still considered culturally unacceptable, analysts said. For a while, they may just continue encouraging young women employees to quit and older men to retire early.

But if the government decides to use public money to help some trust banks and long-term credit banks with their loan problems, there will be public pressure for cuts in personnel costs. If public funds are not used, weaker banks will need to consider merging with survive, analysts said.

"Then they will have to slim down a lot and be an 'attractive bride' to win a partner," one analyst said.

Merger Reports Fuel Surge in Daiwa Stock

TOKYO — Daiwa Bank Ltd. stock skyrocketed 15.6 percent and Sumitomo Bank Ltd. shares plunged 7.5 percent Monday after unconfirmed reports that the two banks would merge.

On the first day of trading after the banks acknowledged they were discussing a merger, investors bid up Daiwa shares and bid down Sumitomo shares in anticipation of a swap of Daiwa for Sumitomo stock, traders said. Both banks deny that they have decided to merge, and neither has announced plans for a share swap.

Separately, the Bank of Japan said it would carry out monthly inspections of Daiwa Bank's operations as part of a move to step up its oversight of the beleaguered bank.

The central bank normally inspects its member banks every three years.

"This is the severest penalty we can think of," said Tatsuya Tamura, executive director of the Bank of Japan.

He said that the central bank had initially considered stationing an official at

Daiwa but that it wanted Daiwa to restore its credibility through its own efforts.

Each monthly inspection will last a week, and the central bank will continue them until it is sure Daiwa has improved its management, he said.

"It is regrettable the bank covered up facts when the BOJ carried out inspections in the past," he said.

Regarding the relative value of Sumitomo and Daiwa, one Daiwa share would be worth 70 percent of a Sumitomo share on the basis of the most recent book values of the two companies. A Daiwa share was worth only 30 percent of a Sumitomo share last week.

By selling Sumitomo and buying Daiwa, some investors aimed to profit from a bet on the spread between the current value and possible future value of the companies' shares.

Sumitomo Bank fell 140 yen to 1,720 yen (\$16.65) on trading of 2.8 million issues, while Daiwa shares soared 100, to 739. Daiwa did not trade until just before the close, as bid offers overwhelmed sell orders for most of the day.

News of a possible merger appeared shortly after American financial authorities ordered Daiwa to shut down its U.S. operations in the wake of a \$1.1-billion scandal involving an alleged cover-up of unauthorized bond trades.

Daiwa received more blows Monday when officials of Japan's Postal Life Insurance Bureau and the Postal Savings Bureau, the country's two leading funds, said they had decided not to entrust any fresh funds to Daiwa Bank for the time being.

Meanwhile, Moody's Investors Service Inc. said it had expanded its review for a possible downgrade of Daiwa.

In addition, a spokesman confirmed that Nomura Securities Co., the world's largest brokerage concern, would play a role in Daiwa's restructuring.

The daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun said over the weekend that Nomura had agreed to extend as much as 200 billion yen to Daiwa if it ran short of funds.

Investor's Asia				
Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	9,798.10	9,855.80	-1.21
Singapore	Strait Times	2,068.81	2,097.28	-0.07
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,106.80	2,091.88	+0.73
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	16,938.97	16,028.80	+0.05
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	927.28	924.50	+0.30
Bangkok	SET	1,238.91	1,244.80	-0.47
Seoul	Composite Index	982.77	989.97	+0.28
Taipei	Stock Market Index	4,882.59	4,814.35	+1.00
Manila	PSE	2,480.35	2,489.08	-1.15
Jakarta	Composite Index	488.02	488.32	+0.14
Wellington	NZSE 40	2,191.44	2,184.74	+0.31
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,433.25	3,445.02	-0.34

Very briefly:

- China's securities watchdog formally criticized the Shanghai Stock Exchange for irregular trading in dividend stocks.
- China's economy will reaccelerate in the second half of next year after continued slower growth in the first half, the Xinhua news agency reported, citing a senior government economist.
- Air China ticket sales were up 10 percent in the first 20 days of October, compared with the like period in 1994, Xinhua reported, after the price of sleeper berths on trains nearly doubled Oct. 1.
- China is setting up a life insurance company to provide policies to the 1 million people being moved for the Three Gorges dam.
- Guangdong Province collected 1.53 billion yuan (\$184.5 million) in individual income taxes — or one-fifth of the national total — in the first nine months of the year, Xinhua reported.
- Gordon Wu, founder and chairman of Hopewell Holdings Ltd., said he expected an increase Hopewell's 40 percent share of tolls charged on the superhighway it built in southern China.
- Hong Kong's gross domestic product, bolstered by strong exports, was 4.8 percent higher in the second quarter than in the like quarter of 1994.
- Taiwan's consumer price index rose 2.88 percent in October from a year earlier. It was up 2.02 percent in September.
- Renault SA, the French automaker, will produce a van based on its Trafic model in Malaysia, in partnership with Inokom, a part of Berjaya Group Bhd.
- BASF AG is forming a joint venture with Nippon Soda Co. to produce a herbicide in Japan.
- Calsonic Corp. said pressure from automakers to lower prices squeezed sales and profit in the first half of the Paris maker's year and will shrink operating profit on the full year.
- Email Ltd. said net profit for the six months ended Sept. 30 fell 41.5 percent, to 26.6 million Australian dollars (\$20.1 million), due to a home-building slump and a marked drop in profit by its appliance division.
- Delta's chief minister has told Kentucky Fried Chicken to close its two-week-old restaurant in the city, saying food samples taken from its food had revealed use of unauthorized additives.
- Vietnam plans to send some 100,000 workers abroad every year, starting in 1996 to ease unemployment, the Vietnam News Agency reported.

Investors Like China but Not Chinese Stocks

SHANGHAI — Foreign investors are becoming increasingly wary of Chinese equity markets because of instability caused by local speculation and the poor quality of many listed firms, analysts said Monday.

Volume has languished in recent months on China's B share markets, launched in 1990 to provide a way for foreign investors to buy stakes in Chinese firms without opening the local market to foreign buyers.

"People are interested in China but not so interested in Chinese equities," said one Japanese stock analyst.

The Shanghai B Share index dropped 1 percent to 53.76 points Monday, near its historical low of 48.80. The index was

dragged down by Shanghai Diesel Engine Co., which fell 8 percent over concern about its accounts receivable. The company's customers owe it large amounts of money, as tight credit controls have made it difficult to pay bills.

So-called H shares — stock in state-owned Chinese companies that trades on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange — also fell sharply as investors worried about poor earnings and tighter credit in China.

The HSCE China Enterprise Index, which tracks 17 H shares, fell 5 percent, to 793 points.

Brokers estimate that 40 percent to 60 percent of B share trading emanates from local Chinese investors. That, analysts say, adds a measure of

speculative instability to the market that has driven foreign investors away.

The purchase of B shares is technically illegal for domestic investors, though in practice many do buy them.

Allan Ng, an analyst with SBC Warburg, said one of the basic problems was the quality of the companies chosen for listing on the B share market.

"The solution is simple, but I don't think the Chinese have the will to do it," he said. "Put good, big companies out onto the market. The situation is such now that any self-respect-

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Shanghai Trades Halted

SHANGHAI — The Shanghai Commodity Exchange suspended trading Monday in the latest crackdown by securities authorities on the country's volatile futures markets.

Shanghai traders said the halt suggested the China Securities Regulatory Commission was winning its battle against rampant speculation.

The exchange suspended trading for meetings on new measures to reduce speculation.

In its latest move, the commission ordered the exchange to cut down on speculation in plywood futures contracts.

The futures crackdown began after Zhou Daojiang took over as commission chairman in April, vowing to clean up the market even at the expense of short-term development.

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NOTICE TO UNITHOLDERS

Citilandmark S.A., acting as the Management Company of Citilandmark (the "Fund"), and with the approval of Citilandmark (Luxembourg) S.A., as Custodian, has decided to change the financial year end date of the Fund from December 31st to March 31st.

The next available report will be the annual audited report based on the financial figures as at March 31st, 1996.

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International announcement for the pre-qualification of design, building and finance consortiums for an eighty thousand (80,000) seats football stadium and a ten thousand (10,000) seats indoor multi-purpose arena.

Announcement No 08/95

With this Notice, the Ministry of Equipment and Housing invites interested Contractors and Consortiums to pre-qualify for the construction of a sports complex in Rades, Tunisia, to be known as Olympic City, November 7th, 1987. The Ministry seeks proposals for a "turnkey" project for the above referenced building. Proposals shall be for the complete design, construction and financing of the project.

Interested parties can obtain from November 3th, 1995 the terms of references and tender documents at the Realization Unit of the Olympic City November 7th, 1987.

Address: Carrefour GPI-Avenue de France,
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Fax No 388 891

Candidacy files have to be sent under plain cover and by certified mail no later than December 2th, 1995 at 13h to the following address:

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Oracle	30.00	35.00	32.00	32.00	400,000
Sun Microsystems	20.00	25.00	22.00	22.00	300,000
Novell	15.00	20.00	17.00	17.00	200,000
Lotus Development	10.00	15.00	12.00	12.00	150,000
Intuit	8.00	10.00	9.00	9.00	100,000
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LEBANON



Beirut is a city in the process of transformation, with stone masons (left) intent on the problems of restoring pavements, excavations in the city center that have revealed a wall dating back to the Bronze Age (center), and the seafront gradually resuming its former elegance (below).



POLITICS AND ECONOMICS SPARK NATIONAL DEBATES

The country has not seen immediate recovery from the civil war, but the prognosis is still good.

Lebanon is perhaps at its most critical point since its 17-year civil war ended three years ago.

The honeymoon period for Prime Minister Rafik Hariri is all but over. All roads might now lead to Damascus, the capital of Syria, which has been exerting more influence on Lebanon's political affairs than ever before.

The latest move has been to force a one-time change in Lebanon's constitution to extend the presidency (which has to be held by a Christian Maronite) for a further three years. Any op-

position to President Elias Hrawi - notably from the army commander, General Emile Lahoud - has been effectively quashed, and there will be no presidential elections this month. Next spring, parliamentary elections are due to be held.

The presidential issue has been a major debating point, leading to shifts and counter-shifts of opinion among parliamentary members. A writer in the leading daily newspaper, *Al Nahar*, pointed out that during the civil war, five presidents were elected in accordance with the constitution. "And

now, when peace prevails, the democratic process is canceled... what is the wisdom of adopting a provocative policy that challenges the majority, and why take Lebanon back to the days of the French mandate when the president was appointed?"

Challenges ahead

Prime Minister Hariri, a construction billionaire and a Sunni Muslim (the premiership must be held by a Sunni), has lost much of his domestic credibility as a politician - which he freely admits he is not - and his international stature as a businessman is not as certain as it has been in the past. Last year, he scored a resounding success and a global vote of confidence when he was able to convince the international financial community to back a \$400 million Eurobond issue to help rebuild

part of his country's infrastructure. Unfortunately, there has been little follow-up to this in spite of the enthusiasm at the time.

The government's draft budget for next year forecasts a \$1.5 billion deficit in spite of major spending cuts across the board, particularly in defense (the Lebanese army is 55,000 strong) and health. The current year's deficit, which was expected to remain stable, is now likely to be much greater by the end of the year.

Mr. Hariri is still the only person whose personality and drive have managed to hold the fragile consensus of government together as he pursues his goals to rebuild Lebanon's war-torn infrastructure. This will require an estimated \$30 billion.

"We are not merely rebuilding what was destroyed during the last 20 years, we are building a new Lebanon.

A Lebanon endowed with one very precious resource: the human talent for innovation, communication, services and personal initiative," declared Mr. Hariri before an audience of business leaders last summer.

Appeal to private sector Some of Mr. Hariri's critics consider his plans far too ambitious.

"They are unrealistic and unrealistic," comments Elie Yachoui, a former dean of management studies at Beirut's University of St. Joseph. "We could be less ambitious and more practical."

Mr. Yachoui believes that the costs of the administration and the size of the civil service - about 60,000 plus 125,000 military personnel - are a drain on resources.

"About 40 percent of the budget, which is some \$3.5 billion, goes to the civil ser-

vice... the government has tried and failed to reform public-sector employment, which is both inefficient and deficient."

Mr. Yachoui advocates a greater private-sector role and the privatization of some key services as a partial solution to the government's financial problems. There has been substantial repatriation of private capital into the country - about \$8 billion this year. Mr. Yachoui also sees a need for more transparency in contracts, an end to favoritism in government and adminis-

tration, and less attention to personal gain.

"There is tremendous frustration here - there must be equal opportunities. Also, we have to put religion aside."

Abundant capital

Other businesspeople see the need to clear away bureaucracy and to introduce a more liberal investment climate. Youssef Choucair, chairman of the recently formed Investment Development Authority of Lebanon, is developing a kind of fast-track investment

strategy with government support in the form of land leases for development. "We are now looking at more than \$1 billion worth of projects," says Mr. Choucair. Another institution trying to fill the gap is Lebanon Invest, which is acting as a merchant bank. (Lebanese banks cannot perform this function.)

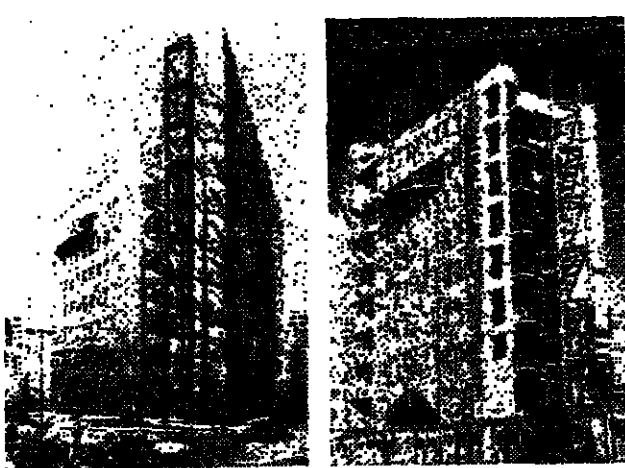
"There is no shortage of capital here; it is the backwardness of the legal system which is the problem," says Marwan Ghandour, chairman of Lebanon Invest. Michael Frenchman

"LEBANON"

was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune.

WRITERS: Michael Frenchman is a London-based writer who specializes in the Middle East. Pamela Dougherty is based in Amman, Jordan.

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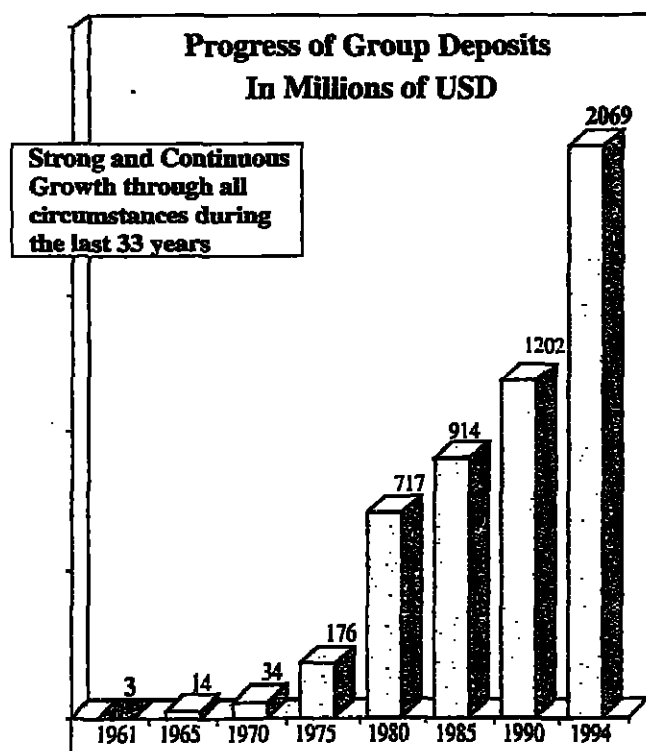
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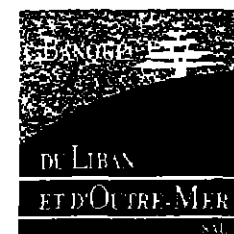
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SMOOTHES PATH OF INVESTORS

Foreigners encouraged to enter development arena.

A new government investment agency, the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon, has shown in the last five months that it is possible to select, promote and approve projects with minimal delays by slashing through bureaucracy, much of it in other government departments. The agency is already looking at some 15 projects requiring an investment capital of \$1 billion from Lebanese and overseas investors. Projects at the tender stage include the new duty-free complex at Beirut's International Airport, six free-trade zones, the Sports City commercial center and the Beirut-Damascus toll road.

The agency represents a new investment concept for Lebanon, where bickering and red tape have delayed the start of several ventures and investment decisions. Created by official decree late last year, IDAL only began operating in June of this year. But there is a definite air of urgency in its handling of prospective projects, most of which are related to real estate. "We are a matchmaking organization looking for private investors. We are assigned projects by the Council of Ministers. We examine their feasibility, look for investors and report directly to the Prime Minister," explains Youssef Choucair, chairman and managing director of IDAL. "We have to have more private investment in this country if we are to help reduce the government's deficit," says Mr. Choucair, who headed the World Bank team that offered a \$175 million facility to Lebanon in 1991 — the first in 12 years. He was

based in Washington but, after returning to Lebanon to negotiate the loan, decided to stay, having been away since 1975.

Private initiative

With a nucleus of 16 staff, IDAL has devised a fast-track system for internal management and decision-making. "We do not follow the red tape of other systems as when you are dealing with the public sector. Here we are dealing with the private sector," Mr. Choucair says. IDAL's mission is to initiate, supervise, direct and facilitate investment projects. It offers investors a project database; information on taxation, customs duties and legal issues; technical assistance on site location and feasibility studies; and many other services to help potential private investors.

The key innovation to many of its projects under implementation or consideration is real estate. In several cases the government is providing free land to the developer, subject to various agreements.

Mr. Choucair cites the case of the Sports City Commercial Center, in which the investment group, ENDECO, has been granted a 45-year lease for the land where the center will be built. This is free in exchange for an agreement that the developer will construct certain facilities like an Olympic-sized swimming pool at Sports City. The center is a \$200 million project.

Another major change has been made in legislation that will allow a new investment company to be listed on the stock exchange immediately

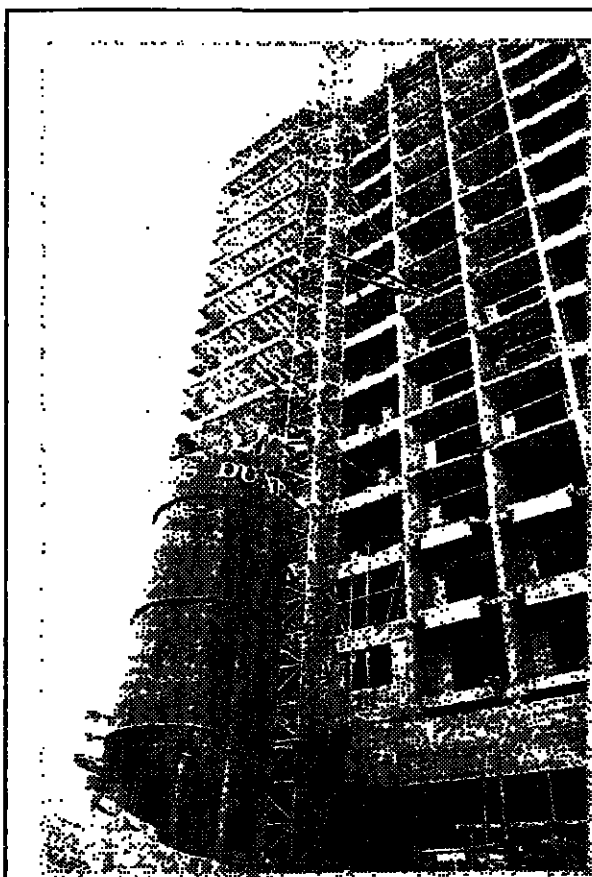
after the public offering has been taken up. "Normally a company must wait three years before it can be listed. This will open the doors for the smaller investors, either Lebanese or foreign, to buy shares," says Mr. Choucair.

Another new IDAL approach is, in some cases, to offer contracts for service projects such as the new duty-free complex and catering facilities at the airport before the physical construction work has been completed. "They are to be leased to private companies: in the case of the duty-free, it will be for 15 years," adds Mr. Choucair.

Several other projects are being offered on a BOT basis, which has distinct advantages for the government because the government does not become involved in the capital development costs. These projects include the toll road to Damascus, which will cost \$500 million. The 65-kilometer (40-mile) road will have four to six lanes. Four companies from France and Germany are bidding for the contract.

Free zones

Six new industrial free zones are also being offered on a build-operate-transfer basis over 25 years. The first two will be at Riyak on the western frontier with Syria and at Al-Quleat, north of Tripoli on the Mediterranean. These are in addition to two existing zones at Beirut and Tripoli airports. The proposed investment for Riyak is \$21.5 million, with an estimated annual return rate of 16.8 percent, and for Al-Quleat \$24 million, with a 17.6 percent rate of return. M.F.



Beirut's first complete shopping center, combining hotel, apartment towers, cinema and shops, nears completion in Verdun. Sixty percent of the apartments have been sold.

AFFLUENT HEAD
FOR THE DUNES

One of the fastest-growing smart areas of West Beirut is Verdun, where restaurants and apartment blocks are springing up every day.

In this neighborhood, one new complex under construction is Dunes — a combined commercial center, hotel and twin 19-story apartment towers. Situated on a corner site close to the new residence of Speaker of Parliament Nabih Berry, Dunes will have the first multi-screen cinema in West Beirut, along with other entertainment facilities, food outlets and boutiques. There will also be parking spaces for 450 cars.

"It will be the first complete shopping center of its kind in the city," says Sam Abu Ayash, project manager. The 120-room hotel will be managed by an international hotel chain. The entire project is due for completion by the end of next year.

According to Mr. Ayash, 60 percent of all the apartments — which range in cost from \$800,000 to \$1 million — have been sold off the drawing board. M.F.

BANKERS WELCOME REGIME
OF STRICTER REGULATIONS

System prepares to move from short-term loans to long-term investment.

Lebanon's banking regulations have never been stricter and its bankers are relishing the new situation. "We either have a clean market or no market at all," says Karam Atallah, general manager of Gefinor Finance.

Mr. Atallah is one of a new breed of Lebanese bankers who have spent years abroad and now want to see the banking system working to the best international standards. "The system will not work on the shoulders of the people who stayed, but on the people coming back who know the rules," he says. "The Central Bank also has these people," he adds.

Ali Jammal, chairman and general manager of Jammal Trust Bank, also welcomes the new situation. "Today the Central Bank is stronger than the banking sector and things have never been so professionally done," he says.

Key questions

Satisfaction about the Central Bank's rule does not mean that bankers are completely happy with the direction of the economy, which is marked by certain distortions that hamper the full development of the private sector. Key questions still to be resolved concern the proper balance between government and private borrowing, the level of interest rates and the way of moving the banking system from short-term to long-term activity.

Basic economic indicators are mixed. GDP for 1995 is at 6 percent in annual terms while inflation is running at 2.75 percent. Construction is showing good expansion,

with a rise of 22.2 percent in the second quarter of the year, while cement deliveries were up by 78.9 percent. The trade deficit is growing, however, reaching \$1.32 billion by mid-1995 although capital inflows have partially offset the deficit, so that the total balance of payments deficit for the first

sector short of funds and pushes up interest rates. In the first six months of 1995 bank credit to the private sector, which makes up 80 percent of Lebanon's economy, grew by \$940 million, while credit to government was up by \$923 million. Interest rates on bonds shot up from 12 to 37 percent.

EIB Loans \$4 Million

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is to lend \$4 million to Lebanon Invest to help create a new investment fund for the private sector. Lebanon Invest will contribute an equal share to the fund. This is the first time the EIB has agreed to finance the Lebanon private sector for 20 years. M.F.

half of the year rose to \$548.4 million.

The budget deficit is also rising steadily, reaching \$1.02 billion, or almost 52 percent of spending, for the first six months of the year.

Budget targets

Bankers are patient about government spending, but they do not want to see official debt go too high. "The budget targets are promising," says Mr. Jammal. "I just hope they will meet them. The prime minister says they have cut unnecessary spending and most major infrastructure is to be done on a build-own-transfer basis, but we still owe \$6 billion in local currency." High government borrowing also leaves the private

Housing scheme

The unavailability of long-term funds is one of the most serious gaps in the system. Most bank deposits are short-term, less than 12 months. Banks can thus offer only limited funding for long-term industrial investment and housing. Banks themselves are being affected by the process. Some of Lebanon's family-owned banks, including Banque du Liban et d'Ouere-Mer, Bank Audi, the Byblos Bank and Jammal Trust Bank, are considering wider participation through public share offerings. For many it is a sign of Lebanon's shift from a "post-war recovery" economy to a post-peace growth of regional competition. Pamela Dougherty

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Photos by Waleed Alouf, Design by Ghada Hamraoui

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Witnessing an unprecedented level of development projects, Lebanon is once again one of the most booming countries in the world. Of all the country's cities, Beirut is undoubtedly the most prosperous at present. And Verdun is definitely one of the capital's most dynamic and lively areas. Right in the heart of Verdun is about to rise the first truly commercial center in Lebanon.

Dunes will comprise a shopping gallery, a hotel, movie theaters, restaurants, a food court, and an amusement arcade.

Dunes
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DAR AL-HANDASAH (Shair & Partners) is participating in the recovery and development of Lebanon, providing consulting services and technical assistance in recovery planning and programming, infrastructure planning, design and construction management, and urban planning.

L E B A N O N



One man, one dish. The busy rooftop of a Beirut apartment block testifies to the country's communications revolution.

MOBILE PHONES HELP TO ANSWER PROBLEMS OF SYSTEM SEVERELY DAMAGED BY WAR

Competing private-sector companies overcome initial difficulties and now handle one million minutes of calls a day.

When mobile telephones arrived in Lebanon with the launch in 1995 of a global system for mobile (GSM) service, subscribers thought their communications problems were over. But they soon found that the rush to embrace the new technology brought its own difficulties. Limitations on the geographical spread of the new systems and initial over-subscription were the main problems.

In August, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Al-Fadi Chalak criticized the operators, Cellis, in which France Telecom has a majority ownership, and Libancell, which has majority Lebanese ownership. The

minister claimed they were not meeting their contractual obligations and ordered them to stop taking new subscriptions.

Both companies have a ten-year franchise to GSM systems of up to 300,000 subscribers, covering all of Lebanon.

Basic problem

Riad Mneimneh of consultants Dar Al-Handasah (Shair and Partners), who were appointed supervisors of the operations of both Lebanon's GSM and fixed networks on July 1, 1995, says the basic problem was that both operators signed up more subscribers than their systems could take initially.

around 40,000 each where their networks were ready for only 20,000 subscribers.

The companies are already sorting out their difficulties, says Mr. Mneimneh. "Each operator now has one million minutes of successful calls, worth \$50,000, each day. The system will improve by the end of the year and by June 1996 it will be perfect."

The enthusiasm for cellular phones was fueled by a combination of low costs — calls are only 5 cents per minute — and the poor state of the fixed network after 15 years of destruction and neglect caused by war.

That network is now in the process of a renovation and

expansion costing more than \$500 million that will give Lebanon a world class, 1.2 million line system by the end of 1997.

New lines

The complex country-wide restoration project is being carried out by three of Europe's major telecommunications companies, Siemens, Ericsson and Alcatel, and covers the complete rehabilitation of the old 200,000 line network and the installation of about 1 million new lines.

For Antoine Sayegh, project director for Almadani Liban, Siemen's sub-contractor on the project, the job is a challenge.

"We have done larger projects abroad," he says, "but here we are working with the traffic continuing, on-going work on other infrastructure, the non-existence of accurate utilities drawing and the need to work at 54 sites at the same time."

Work includes the digging of 670 kilometers of trenches, and the company aims to re-asphalt within one week of digging.

Despite these difficulties, says Mr. Sayegh, users will begin to feel the benefits of the work by the end of 1995, and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is now accepting requests for new lines in some areas.

P.D.

AIRLINE COMMUNICATION GROUP RETURNS TO BEIRUT

Lebanon can become 'a major center for the Middle East and North Africa.'

SITA, well known for its international communication systems for airlines, has re-established its Middle East headquarters in Beirut, which it plans to use as a base to diversify its services into the business and commercial world. SITA first went to Lebanon in 1953 and continued operating through the civil war but relocated its administration to Paris in 1984.

The company operates one of the biggest private user group communications networks in the world and believes it can play an important role in developing Lebanon's telecommunications infrastructure.

"We see Lebanon becoming a focal point as a major communications center for the Middle East and North Africa," says Arwad Abdel-Daem, general manager. "Also during the reconstruction period of Lebanon there is a need for communications, especially among corporate customers, which is what SITA and its subsidiary companies can provide."

The group already has a number of inter-

national clients outside the aviation industry, including American Express, Hilton Hotels International, Federal Express and the United Nations.

Cost-effective

Mr. Abdel-Daem says that the advantage of a global data service should particularly appeal to the banks in Lebanon. "It is by far the biggest sector which needs good communications, and we are already talking to some of them. We can offer a very cost effective solution for companies as we already have the network."

SITA is recognized as a closed-user group by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) which, according to Mr. Abdel-Daem, means it can operate in any country.

"Now we are trying to get agreement from the Lebanese government to offer services to non-airline users here. We have already had interest from Mercedes, ING bank and the Marriott Hotel," says Mr. Abdel-Daem.

M.F.

CHAIRMAN PROMISES NEW IMAGE FOR AIRLINE



Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Lebanese Airline Company, Mr. Samir Sayegh.

Lebanon's Airline Company (LAC) is planning to launch a new image for the airline.

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L E B A N O N

CONSTRUCTION VERSUS ARCHAEOLOGY

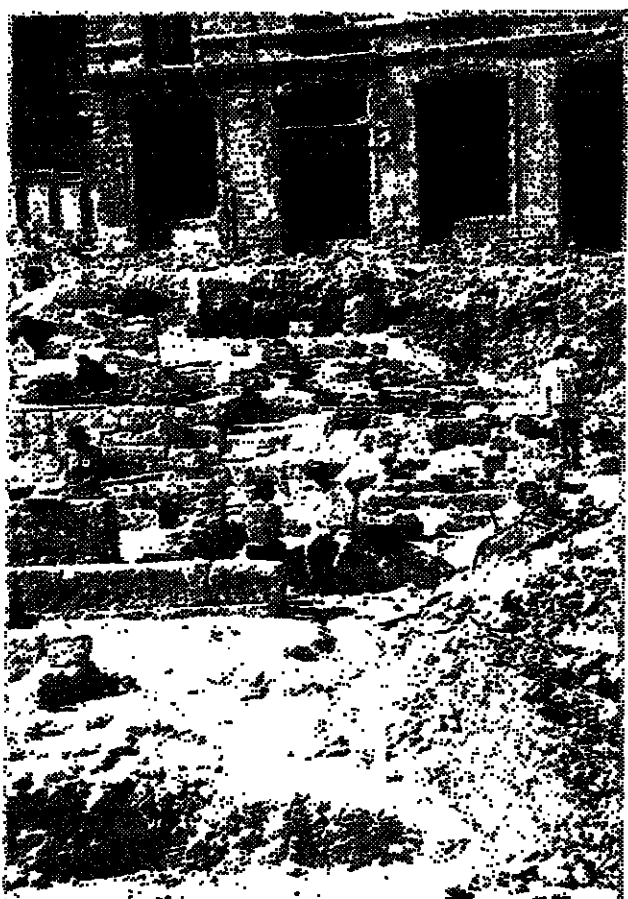
The restoration of Beirut has revealed many new finds that pose questions for urban planners.

Archaeologists are rolling back the carpet of history beneath Beirut's city center and discovering past civilizations. The question now being posed is whether these finds will delay the rebuilding of the city.

At the Normandy landfill site, on the edge of the city center, a convoy of 1,000 trucks a day is dumping rock spoil into the sea to create a larger construction area for part of the new Beirut. A few hundred yards away, an army of workers with tools, brushes and buckets and the odd mechanical digger are excavating huge holes as major archaeological discoveries are being made in downtown Beirut.

The city center development area, which covers 4.69 million square meters (5.61 square yards), is being redeveloped by the private company Solidere. It may now be the biggest urban archaeological site in the world. Following the demolition and clearing away of two-thirds of the old city center, which has left 300 buildings awaiting refurbishment, the archaeologists have been unearthing some of Beirut's past glories dating back to the Bronze Age.

A long series of defensive walls, ramparts and gateways covering the Iron Age (Phoenician), Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Crusades and Ottoman periods have been unearthed in a huge rescue operation as archaeologists compete with contractors attempting to put in the city's new infrastructure — storm drains, sewers and cable conduits as well as new roads. At the same time, teams of builders are at work restoring some of the former contemporary city buildings that have been slated for



Destruction at Martyrs' Square in Beirut city center has revealed the remains of shops and streets from Roman and Phoenician times.

preservation. The first of these, at 129 Foch Avenue, is almost complete. Four others are nearly finished.

Town and gown Excavations began in the area between Martyrs' Square and Nijmeh Square in 1993 and in the old souk area in 1994. Teams of archaeologists from the Directorate General of Antiquities, the American University of Beirut (AUB) and the Lebanese University, as well as experts from Britain, the

Netherlands and France, have been working non-stop to reveal some of the city's unknown past.

It has been a very exciting time for Leila Badri of the AUB, who has been heading the main excavations.

"We have been finding all periods represented by settlements and city walls from the Iron Age to the Crusader period. One of the main sites on which we are working at present is an ancient tell (hill) which covers the oldest settlement which we

have found — the Early Bronze Age, about 2,100 BC," says Prof. Badri. Running north to south across part of the site is what is probably the first city wall.

The archaeologists have also uncovered a monumental entrance gate dating from the Middle Bronze Age period, complete with side walls 22 feet high below present-day ground level.

"We never expected to find things like this," exclaimed Prof. Badri, just before rushing off to meet a visiting foreign delegation. The series of city walls from various periods, built one behind the other in some places, are plain to see. Other significant discoveries have included the body of a small girl buried in a clay storage jar from the Bronze Age. She was wearing a necklace of gold and carnelian beads.

Twenty-three storage jars from the Phoenician period were discovered in the remains of a single room. Another had 13 jars, some of which still contained grapes and olives. A late Roman house with a peristyle paved with elaborate mosaics has also come to light, along with Roman baths that served as a meeting place for merchants and politicians.

One of the most dramatic discoveries — showing how the builders of the day used the remains of earlier buildings — is the Crusader castle, whose foundations include the remains of massive Roman pillars.

New park planned

According to Solidere, many of the remains and artifacts will be removed and placed in an archaeological park to be built near the Old Souk area and the city's last Mar-



onument, a law school built in 1517. This is to be rebuilt as part of the souk restoration.

Restoration of the many blitzed buildings continues with great attention to detail — arches, corbels and facings — many of which have been made to match the originals.

Historical light

One architect, Nabil Azar, who is working on the refurbishment of several buildings in the city center, believes that while the discoveries throw new light on Beirut's history, not all that has been found in the way of walls and roadways is really worth preserving; they are also causing developers additional expense through the changes that they entail.

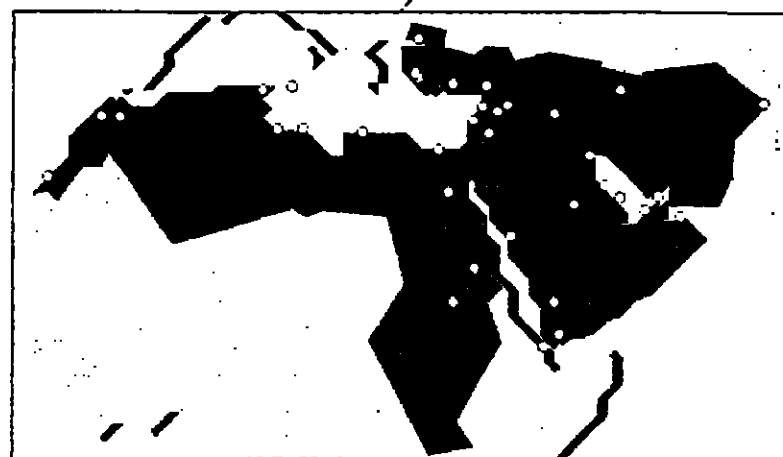
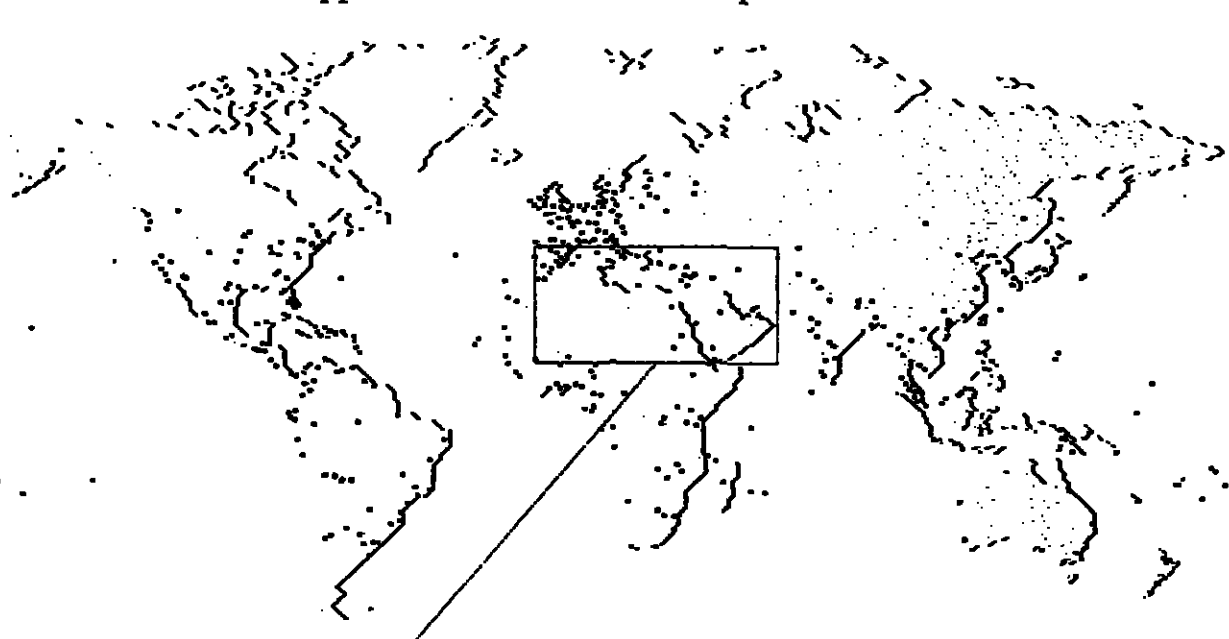
"There is nothing really startling," says Mr. Azar, who suggests that some of the walls and gateways might be moved and reassembled, perhaps in the archaeological park, and the sites filled in so that reconstruction of the area can continue unhindered. For the archaeologists, this would be very controversial. But according to some planners and businesspeople, Solidere cannot delay development still further. M.F.



The name of the street, Allenby, commemorates a British military presence, but the stonework goes back to much earlier conquerors — the Romans. Beirut youths (above) help to wash the shards discovered in an ancient site.

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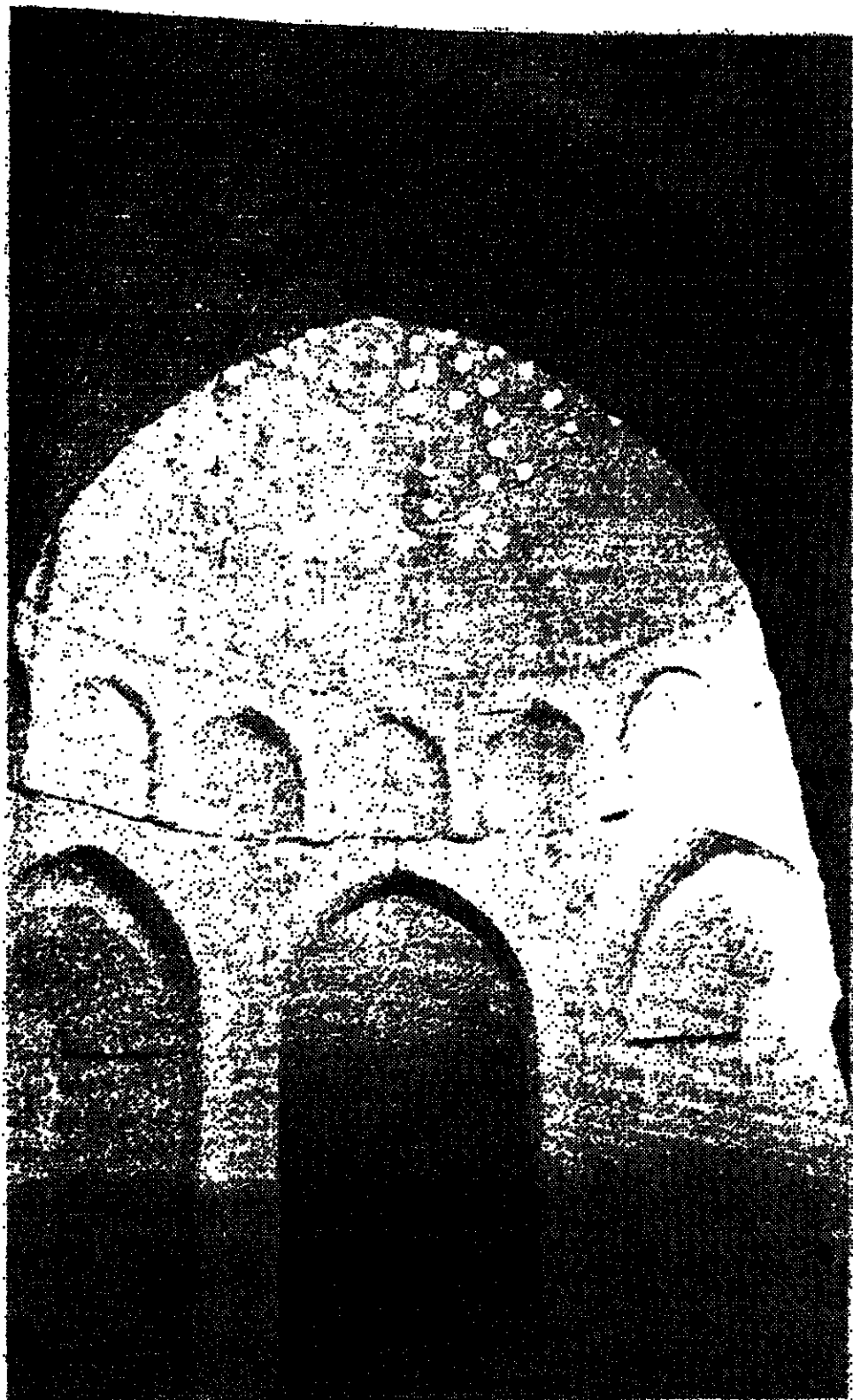
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L E B A N O N



The old Turkish baths in Tripoli are among 150 buildings in the city that have been classified as ancient monuments for preservation.

TRIPOLI'S RELAXED ATMOSPHERE BELIES ITS INDUSTRY

A new university and an expanded fairground are just two examples of the city's renovation projects.

Tripoli, the second-largest city in Lebanon (population about 500,000), is both a river resort and a commercial center with an undeniable sweet smell of success. Several of its merchant trading families can trace their roots back to the days of the Crusaders.

Its coastline is dominated by rows and rows of hotels and villa apartments. In the city, with its fine citadel and ancient souks, the air is heavy with the scents of orange blossom, olive oil soap, rosewater and the sugary-sweet perfume of more than 100 shops making traditional Arabic sweets and desserts.

"You have to try our sweets; Tripoli is most famous for them," says Sami Menkara, the mayor and a former general working late at his office one night last month.

"We have about 5,000 persons employed in sweet shops and factories. The industry was started in the middle of the last century by the Hallab family—the name means 'the man who makes milk,'" he explained. The basis of Hallab sweets is a kind of cream laced with nuts on top of a sugary-honey mixture of finely milled couscous.

Environmental action

There is a very laid-back attitude to life in Tripoli, which is about an hour's drive north along the coast from Beirut. Just outside Tripoli, the road passes by one of the most dismal areas of Lebanon, where cement factories belch smoke and fumes in a huge cloud hang-

ing over the horizon.

The mayor, a keen environmentalist, is quick to point out that the area is outside the municipality and that he has his own problems to take care of. He has a "strategy for action" to clean up Tripoli, dispose with solid waste and construct sewage treatment plants instead of allowing effluent to pour directly into the sea.

He also wants to preserve some of the ancient buildings. About 150 have been designated as ancient monuments. The World Bank is providing \$100,000 for conservation studies, and other funds are coming from the European Union.

While there is concern for the past, the mayor is hoping that some foreign companies will also look at new leisure and commercial activities that will re-affirm Tripoli's position as the alternative investment opportunity to Beirut—in spite of the laid-back attitude.

Up and coming

"Nobody does much after 2 P.M.," said Abdallah Ghandour, puffing away at a big cigar in his office. In fact, it was well after 6 P.M. But Mr. Ghandour, one of the leading businesspeople and merchants of the ancient city, is an exception to the 2 P.M. habit.

Tripoli is far from being the apocryphal Mediterranean town where all life ceases in the afternoon. If there is an alternative business focus to Beirut, it has to be Tripoli. It has the country's biggest oil refinery (2.5 million tons a year of refined products); the second-largest port, han-

dling more than 1 million tons of general cargo, which is to be rebuilt and extended to include a 450,000 square meter (538,195 square yard) free zone; and an old military airport north of the city, which is to be redeveloped to include another free zone.

The fair ground and exhibition center is to become the official exclusive international fair venue for the Lebanon.

A major university specializing in business, commerce and vocational training will be built to help bridge the gap left by 17 years of civil war.

Higher education

Another important promoter of change for Tripoli is Mustafa Dernaika, president of Gaz Orient, who is planning the new university. He has been working on the project for 35 years.

The university will complement the existing one by providing additional faculties for more professional skills. The new faculties will include nursing, arts and sciences, agriculture and computer technology.

"One of the problems in this country is that we have lots of generals, but no soldiers. We lack that middle rank of skilled workers and the professional classes because there have been no facilities," says Mr. Dernaika.

International fairgrounds

The land was bought 35 years ago. A trust has been established to plan the construction, which has now begun, and the administration of the new university. The first stage of the project will

cost about \$15 million, later rising to \$50 million. At the start it will be able to accommodate 3,000 students.

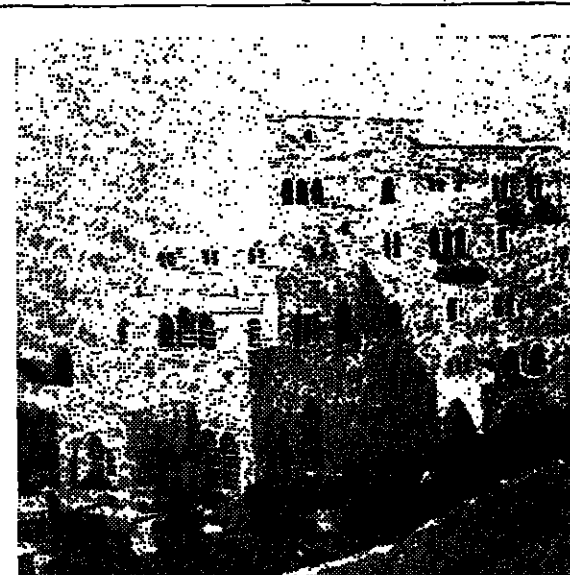
Mr. Dernaika is also developing and extending the Rashid Karami Fair as a major pole of attraction for future business in Lebanon.

Originally designed in the 1960s by Oscar Niemeyer, who planned Brasilia, the then-futuristic capital of Brazil, it is to become the sole venue for international fairs and exhibitions in Lebanon. It will be run as a private company.

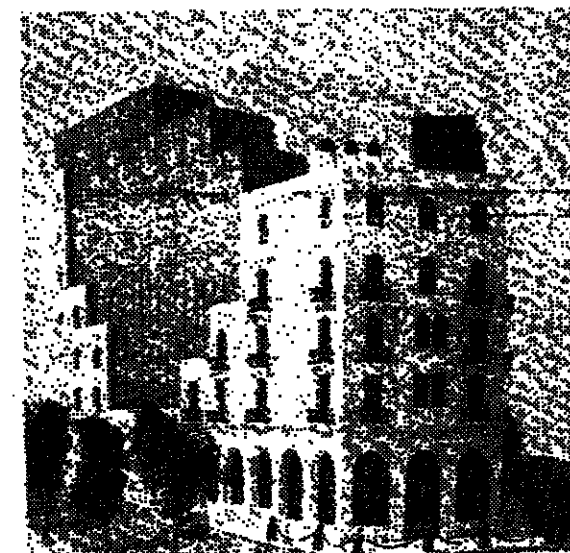
Investments of up to \$70 million are planned to improve the facilities, including the construction of a five-star 200-bed hotel. Lebanese consultants Dar Al-Handasah are preparing tender documents for the fair, to be run on a build-operate-transfer (BOT) basis.

"Already we have the best fair facilities in the region," says Mr. Dernaika, who shares Mr. Ghandour's enthusiasm and optimism for the future development of Tripoli.

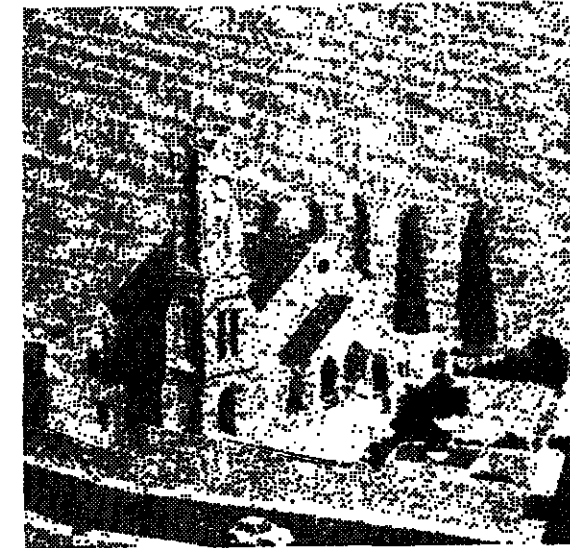
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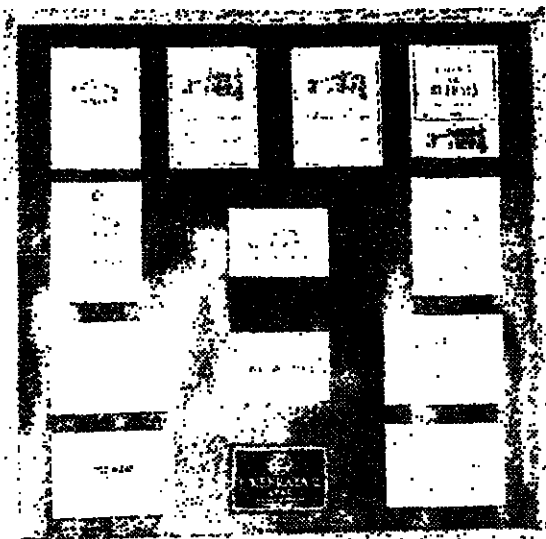
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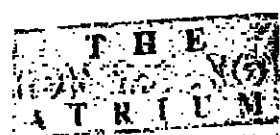
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SPONSORED SECTION

L E B A N O N

DOWNTOWN BEIRUT
CHANGES ITS ARCHITECTURE

The goal is to construct modern buildings without sacrificing the city's past.

Form and function in architecture and their relationship with contemporary urban planning, particularly in downtown Beirut, are a continuing subject for discussion and controversy among Lebanese planners, designers and architects. The Solidere development company's plan for rebuilding the city center has gone through several phases, from a total rebuild to the current compromise of restoring some 300 buildings and allowing new high-density tower blocks. Efforts are being made to retain a little of the old character - which in fact is not so old, as most of the original city center was demolished by French mandate in 1915.

In 1977, Pierre El Khoury helped prepare one of the earlier plans for rebuilding Beirut before the Solidere plan. Mr. Khoury is one of Lebanon's most respected, and most outspoken, architects.

"If I feel that the customer is wrong, say completely wrong, I will quit. But this does not happen very often and only if we cannot reach a compromise," says Mr. Khoury.

Turning the page

For Mr. Khoury, the Solidere plan is something of a

compromise in an architectural and planning sense. "I feel they could have made something different, but the one big plus point I suppose is that something is happening," says Mr. Khoury, adding, "Many of us were against the original plan and we could not imagine that a private company could take out the heart and

**EL KHOURY:
'SOMETHING IS
HAPPENING.'**

soul of a town in such a way." That plan envisaged much concrete and glass, almost puerile cubism, with virtually no synergy or cohesion - just building blocks. "Perhaps the only consolation is that the company is actually doing something which the government, with its financial problems, could not possibly have done... for me, Solidere represents the turning of a page, but the project is going on and, at least, everyone is working towards an end."

Mr. Khoury studied architecture and town planning in France. His father was an architect "and I suppose I had always wanted to be one like

him," he observes. But a lot of his work has leaned toward urban planning.

"The problem is that you cannot really control town planning, as it may take 30 to 40 years to complete a project and regulations are continually being changed."

From banks to basilicas While he may have strong views on the contemporary plan for Beirut, Mr. Khoury admits to having a vested interest. He is, after all, designing Solidere's new headquarters as well as several other important buildings in the city center, including the offices of one of the leading newspapers, Al Nahar.

Rising fast, too, is his design for the new head office of the Banque du Liban et d'Outre-Mer, which is outside the city center near the Bristol Hotel. Other projects include a sports club, a new country club and an extension to an existing club.

The building for which Mr. Khoury will perhaps be best remembered stands high on the Harissa hills overlooking Jounieh. It is the Maronite Basilica, on which work began just before the civil war started in 1975. The design takes the form of hands placed in prayer, and the inside of the



The building at 129 Foch Street is the first to be restored in Beirut City Center.

building, which can seat 2,000 people, resembles the inside of an upturned boat. The focal point is a statue of the Virgin Mary erected in the 1850s, which can be seen outside the church through the window behind the altar.

Close communication Another architect closely involved in the city center development is Nabih F. Azar, general manager of Builders Design Consultants. He has redesigned the first building to be reconstructed in the city center: 129 Foch Street, which had been sold by Solidere to a group of private businessmen.

"It is one of the first of three buildings to be restored by Solidere," says Mr. Azar, who is not in com-

plete agreement with Mr. Khoury about preserving "old Beirut" - although he thinks that the proposed high-density planning is "a catastrophe."

"I think efforts are being made to keep some of the older elements, and the urban design and planning are quite good. Solidere's approach, for instance, to what we are doing is very positive. They are always looking, and we have never had someone watching us so closely and discussing things with us," said Mr. Azar.

One of the company's major projects has been the reconstruction of the National Evangelical Church. First it had to be dismantled stone by stone last year before being reassembled over a new

three-level underground car park with various amenities. The work is expected to be finished next year.

Roman touch Another major city center refurbishment being carried out is the Banco di Roma, under which various Roman antiquities were rediscovered when the building was first constructed (the antiquities were originally found in 1934). Most notable is a beautiful Roman archway and marble floor, which are to be relocated and preserved as part of an underground museum.

One of Mr. Azar's latest works is the design of a striking new town house for Nabih Berri, the speaker of the Lebanese Parliament. M.F.

STOCK EXCHANGE
WAITS... AND WAITS

The Beirut Stock Exchange is still in limbo, in spite of its official opening on September 25. As Gabriel Schemmou, head of the stock exchange, explained, all the necessary regulations and procedures have not yet been finalized. He said that the exchange is waiting for the final approval of the state legislature.

"We had already drafted one set of laws, but we decided to take further advice and start again from scratch" so as to comply with international regulations, explains Mr. Schemmou.

Until the new legislation is passed, the stock exchange cannot proceed with any of the companies that were listed on the old stock exchange for trading. Only about five are likely to be accepted for the new exchange.

Mr. Schemmou, who is ever optimistic, says he hopes that the new laws will be in place by the end of the year.



Gabriel Schemmou, head of the Beirut Stock Exchange.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AIM FOR QUALITY

A marriage of new techniques, concern for the environment and old-fashioned elegance is recreating Beirut.

Say, "Take me to the Gefinor center" to any Beirut taxi driver and he will have no trouble in finding the elegant West Beirut skyscraper that emerged unscathed from 15 years of civil war. Amidst a surge of new construction it stands as a model of quality that more and

more Lebanese would like to see followed.

Gefinor Finance, owners of the building (it was completed in 1970), are now themselves hoping to emulate that quality, if not the style, in their \$100 million New City real estate project at Hazmieh in east Beirut.

The company has the right to build on 45 percent of the site but will use only 22 percent to establish housing, commercial buildings and shops, keeping the rest for green space. An existing 19th century building on the site will be preserved.

"We hope it will be an example showing that you can make money and do something good," says Karam Atallah, general manager of Gefinor Finance.

Modern facade Another company aiming to win a reputation for good design and concern for the urban environment is Prime Estates, which has three major projects under development, including the Atrium in the central business district of Beirut. "We believe we will be the leaders in building in the central business district," says Prime Estates partner Joseph Mouawad.

Working with the Terry Farrell Office of Britain, they have planned a 16,000-square-meter office complex, 9,000 square meters of it above ground, that will combine a traditional facade

on Maarad Street, where a number of old buildings are earmarked for restoration, and a modern facade opening onto public garden space on the other side.

"Everyone involved in the scheme loves old Beirut and they want to bring it back, but they are also from the new generation and they want to marry old style with new techniques," says Mr. Mouawad.

Two Prime Estates projects at the newly developing area of Jalladib, north of Beirut, also reflect the demand for a new approach to urban planning in Lebanon. The 120-unit Primavera housing complex will combine the traditional Lebanese demand for spacious interiors with a communal swimming pool area and maximum landscaping.

"Buyers now are very concerned about open space, gardens and landscaped areas," says Mr. Mouawad. The project will break new ground because for the first time a real estate company is offering buyers a 15 year mortgage.

Child care clinic Ten minutes' walk from Primavera is the group's commercial and shopping complex, La Plaza. It is pioneering the idea of incorporating a mother and child clinic, a

child care center and offices for all professional services as part of its facilities.

The new approach to urban design and construction is showing in other ways. Khatib and Alami Consolidated Engineering Company has introduced new technical competence through the use of Geographic Information Systems, a computer-based method of organizing and manipulating data.

"We introduced the system to Lebanon through seminars at the country's university engineering schools, an approach we found effective for providing trained staff for future projects," says Jacques Ekmekji, K&A specialist in GIS.

Their first project was with Electricite du Liban, where they are developing a system for running the electricity network and organizing its rehabilitation and expansion throughout Lebanon. They are also contracted to introduce the system into the Solidere program for the reconstruction of the central business district.

Mr. Ekmekji believes that Lebanon should develop its skills in GIS and other advanced technology so that it can become a provider of services to the region.

P.D.

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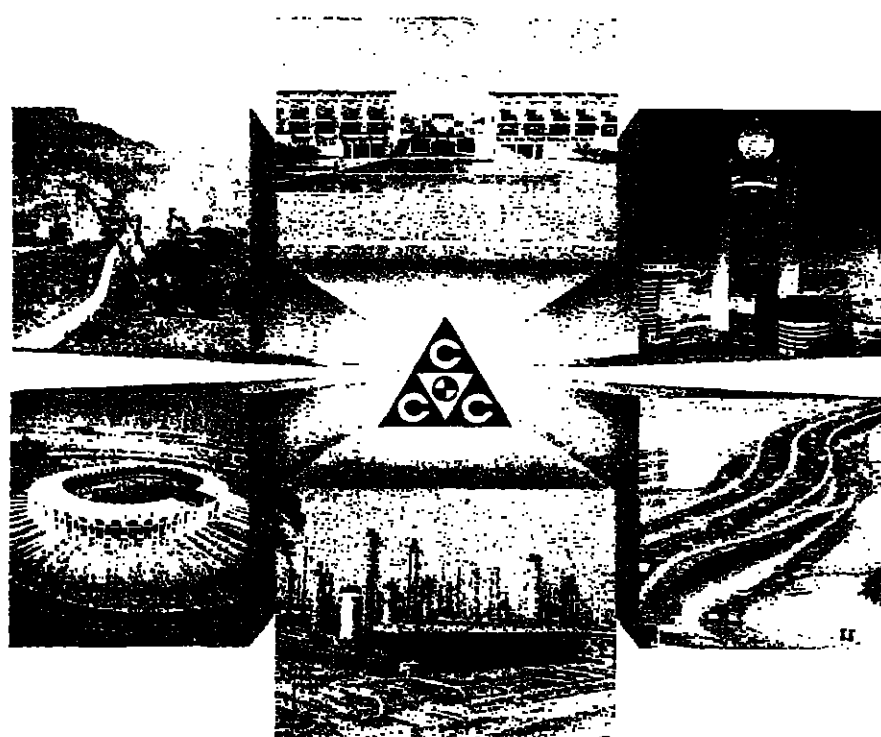
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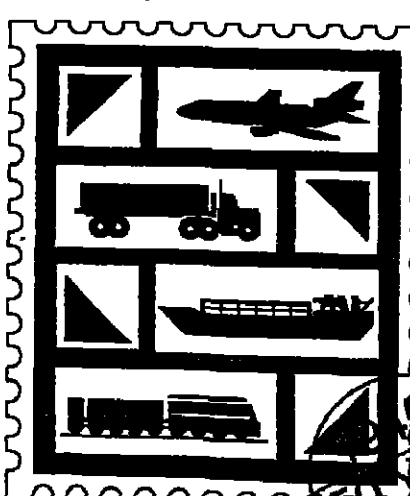
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L E B A N O N

ART AND IMAGINATION
MAKE UP FOR LACK OF SPACE

Design plays a major part in maintaining the quality of Lebanon's reconstruction.

Lebanon's economic revival is to a large extent being led by a boom in construction. Permits for 6.8 million square meters of new building were issued in the second quarter of 1995 alone, a rise of 49.3 percent over the same period in 1994. But for cultural and practical reasons many Lebanese are starting to measure the quality of the new environment, not just the scale of the growth.

Interior designers Bassam Daher and Jean-Louis Mainguy of the Ensembles gallery pride themselves on helping to revive a cultural awareness that Lebanon lost during the war. Their Beirut gallery is a showcase for the European antiques they like to incorporate in their designs, but it has, in the 14

months since they opened, also begun to function as a meeting place for young Lebanese art students.

Mr. Mainguy welcomes student visitors. "The new generation does not know museums and galleries," he says. "We have to help them know about art, culture and music so they realize there is more to consider than just construction."

Like many other Lebanese professionals, Mr. Mainguy and Mr. Daher have spent years working in Europe—in their case 12 years in Paris—and they are now putting their experience to work in the Lebanese environment. "We learned from Europe, but we live in the Lebanese way," says Mr. Daher.

For some the use of imagination is a vital compensa-

tion for a lack of space. The Forum de Beyrouth project now rising on land on the northern edge of the city is using a 50,000-square-meter site to provide a multi-functional space that would normally require from 100,000 to 500,000 square meters.

Movable walls

Its 15,000-square-meter hall has a 16 meter ceiling making it suitable for sports events, while movable walls will enable it to be transformed in 24 hours into a 500-stand capacity exhibition hall or shaped into a theatre seating anything from 1,000 to 8,000 people.

When the Forum de Beyrouth is opened in January 1996, Beirut will also have gained a covered exhibition



A symbolic Phoenician figure appears to be offering a helping hand at the Beirut museum.

center with 2,000 parking places close to the heart of the city.

Luxury suites

The Bristol Hotel is also grappling with size constraints as it carries out major renovations. Located in the totally built up Hamra district, it has nowhere to expand. Managing director Raoul Schallig has relied instead on imagination to rework its internal space. The

hotel's Summit Executive third floor has gone from 35 to 29 rooms as more suites are created, and the luxury accommodation is proving very popular, says Mr. Schallig. "We have created a three-tier system within our limited area," says Mr. Schallig. "We have the Summit Executive third floor, the fourth and fifth floors for business guests and the first and second floors for tourism and incen-

tive business. We are ready for all developments."

Whether it is the introduction of new ideas, the creative use of space or just a matter of capitalizing on a special location (as the Hotel Sur Mer in the northern town of Byblos has done), Lebanon's builders and designers are now realizing that it is imagination and creativity, not just bricks and mortar, that build a livable environment. P.D.

RECONCILING LUXURY
AND SQUATTERS

Desperate situations need desperate solutions or, in the Lebanese case, complex situations need imaginative solutions.

The difficult task of Elissar, an independent public agency, is to transform a 600-hectare area in the south-western suburbs of Beirut. In prewar days it was an upper-class residential area with a desirable sea frontage, and it is now home to more than 100,000 people living in unsightly and illegally built housing.

Elissar, and consultants Dar Al Handasah who are planning the project, had to reconcile the rights of landowners and squatters, providing the area with services and freeing land for development that can take advantage of its assets. These include space, proximity to both city and sea, and access to Lebanon's only golf course.

Middle option

The land is divided into five large tracts, each with multiple ownership by 600 to 700 people. The first option open to the government, says Bassam Nsouli, project director of Dar Al Handasah, was to leave the squatters in situ and offer compensation to the owners. This was rejected on the grounds of cost.

On the other hand, political sensitivity to the situation of the squatters, mainly refugees from the south of Lebanon who are still unable to return home, meant that they could not just be expelled. Instead, says Mr. Nsouli, the government has opted to rehouse the squatters, free part of the land for the owners and relax the buildings regulations to allow them to use it profitably.

Every resident will be entitled to be rehoused, and about 80 percent are expected to choose to stay. Priority is being given to the design and building of the first 1,300 of the low-cost housing units that will replace the existing sub-standard housing.

Maintenance responsibility

"Emphasis will be on easy maintenance, a minimum of common space and a strong effort to get families to feel responsible for the upkeep of their own space," says Mr. Nsouli. The plan will also provide facilities for shops, commercial centers and workshops, so that residents will be able to earn a living in the area.

Elissar will function as a non-profit agency, but it has to be economically viable and will have the right to contract infrastructure development to government or private entities and to build, rent, lease and expropriate property as needed. In the sensitive world of Lebanese property development its efforts to forge a new model of urban renewal will be closely watched. P.D.

A COMPANY BRINGS ITS NEW SKILLS BACK HOME

In the early 1970s Lebanese engineers took their skills to Saudi Arabia and helped to found Almahani General Contractors. Today Almahani is bringing the skills it developed in Saudi Arabia back to support Lebanon's reconstruction.

Almahani's beginnings in Saudi Arabia were comparatively modest. Early projects included an agricultural institute at Buraydah, a sidewalk project for Riyadh and buildings for Dhahran airport. As the oil boom of the 1970s fueled a surge of construction, the company's activities grew.

Today Almahani's Saudi Arabian operations encompass a network of eight companies and its projects list reads like a history of the country's development. "As leading entrepreneurs, we are honored and proud to have played a part in the development of

Saudi Arabia into a first-class nation," says company president Nehme Tohme.

Commercial networks, major housing complexes, desalination and power plants compete for space in a list of more than 100 projects. By the early 1990s, the company's assets had reached \$160 million, with a turnover of more than \$167 million annually. Working from its headquarters in Jeddah and supported by offices in Muscat, Beirut, London and Paris, Almahani oversees projects throughout the Middle East. Throughout its growth, Almahani has never forgotten its Lebanese roots, and in 1982 staff returned, bringing a shipload of equipment with them, to work on a challenging 100-kilometer road rehabilitation project.

Today, the Lebanese-registered Almahani Liban is building an impressive local portfolio

that starts with its headquarters, the prestigious Almahani Towers, a luxurious multi-story commercial center in the developing area of Dbayeh, north of Beirut.

Almahani's work includes the spectacular Mzaar 2000 ski resort, water supply in North Lebanon, a sewerage network for the Faraya area in the mountains above Beirut, civil works for the new telecommunications network and the glamorous renovation of the Casino du Liban.

For Antoine Sayegh, project manager for civil works for the rehabilitation of the telecommunications network in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, the skills come in planning, holding to tight schedules and making optimum use of equipment—all elements which were missing in war-time Lebanon. At Jounieh, north of Beirut, Almahani's

Joe Sarkis is helping to bring the company's experience of rush jobs in Saudi Arabia to bear as project manager for the rebuilding of the Casino du Liban. Almahani received notice to commence work on October 2, 1995, and has now started a process under which the original casino building will be stripped back to its slabs and columns and completely rebuilt ready for a June 1996 opening.

In a second phase, work will begin on the \$10 million Salle des Ambassadeurs and the Théâtre du Liban. There, says Mr. Sarkis, the challenge will be to work without disturbing the by-then active casino. Neither the speed nor the complexity of the whole project worries Mr. Sarkis. "We are committed to doing \$3.4 million worth of work per month," he says. "We accepted the challenge because we have done it before." P.D.

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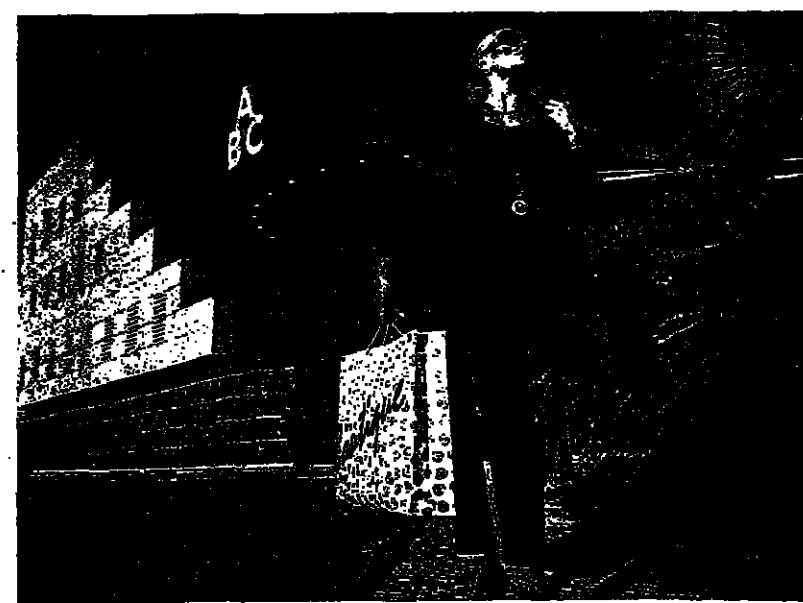
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L E B A N O N



BEKKA VALLEY'S WINE WINS

Kefraya wines have been gaining international awards.

"Make wine, not war" could well have been on the labels of the thousands of bottles of wine produced each year at the Coteaux de Kefraya in the Bekka Valley, just a short distance from Lebanon's border with Syria. It is there that Michel de Bustros has created one of the most extraordinary, and now most successful, vineyards in the Middle East - a region that today produces more than one million bottles of wine a year. Forty percent of Mr. de Bustros's prize-winning wines are exported to France and to almost every wine-drinking country in the world.

The Bekka Valley
During the 1950s, Mr. Bustros inherited a family estate in the Bekka Valley, on which the land had not been cultivated for centuries. Using dynamite and bulldozers, Mr. Bustros cleared 300 hectares (741 acres) of clay and limestone soil, where he planted vines imported from France - Cinsault, Carignan, Grenache and Ugni Blanc. Later, he added Cabernet Sauvignon. Overlooking the vines, which now range from 11 to 37 years old, Mr. Bustros has built a splendid Lebanese chateau in mixed Arabesque-Venetian style. It stands on a small hill that was originally raised by the Romans to overlook part of the valley, today one of the richest agricultural regions of Lebanon.

The blood, sweat and toil that went into planning and nurturing the vineyard have paid off handsomely, even through the country's 17-year civil war.

The Kefraya winery is in the hands of the Middle East's most successful vintner and enologist, Yves Morard, a Frenchman who came to the Bekka Valley in 1980 after answering a small advertisement in a newspaper for the job at Kefraya. Mr. Morard, who now speaks Arabic like a Bekka Valley local, delicately taps off the latest vin nouveau (new wine), or a more mature rouge (red) such as the medal-winning Treasures of Kefraya. At the recent Challenge International du Vin in Blaye, in France's Bordeaux region, Kefraya's Lacrima d'Oro won a gold medal, one of many international awards that the winery has garnered.



Visitors inspect the Kefraya range of wines (top), and (above) the manager of the winery, Yves Morard, in front of a water-cooled steel storage vat.



Feraya provides winter sport pleasure for the skilled skier (above) and for the young adventurer (below).

SKI RESORT IS BUILT WITH CONVENIENCE IN FIRST PLACE

Visitors can travel light when going to a complex in which every amenity is furnished.

Some of Lebanon's great attractions have always been its recreational activities - particularly the ones outdoors. There are few places in the Mediterranean where you can ski in the mountains during the morning and drive down to the sea for a swim after a lazy lunch.

Within one hour's drive of Beirut, 2,000 meters (2,187 yards) up on Mount Lebanon, some of the best skiing anywhere in the country can be found between December and May. Taking shape among the snow-laden Cedars at Faraya is Lebanon's newest ski-resort complex - Mzaar 2000. It will adjoin some existing facilities developed by the Feraya-Mzaar company.

Parking provided
When completed in 1997, it will be the biggest ski resort in the Middle East and will offer year-round recreational activities.

The \$50 million-Mzaar 2000 ski village is being developed by one of Lebanon's biggest commercial groups, Almamunt, whose investors for the project include Fouad Rizk, Nehme Tohme and Rizk Rizk. The resort has been de-



signed by Nabil El-Khazen with the use of cars in mind. Parking at Lebanon's ski resorts has become a major headache, with skiers having to park their cars a long way from the facilities. Not so at Mzaar 2000.

"The resort has been designed around a large underground car park with four levels," project engineer Fady Comair explains. "On the roof is a huge garden with nine surrounding ski lodges. At one end is the commercial center with an 80-room hotel and leisure complex. The ski lift station adjoins the hotel terrace. There is space to park 1,000 cars with direct access to the villas, which each have six to eight apartments."

Heated corridors and walkways provide access through the parking lot to the commercial center and hotel, enabling skiers to go straight from their villa apartment to the ski station without having to go outside. The ski lift rises to 3,000 meters and connects to a chain of 12 lifts. The carrying capacity is between 8,000 and 12,000 people an hour. Another four or five lifts are to be added for the 1996-97 season, which will increase the capacity by another 1,500 people an hour.

Self-sufficiency is the key
One of the basic ideas behind Mzaar 2000, which takes its name from the height of the mountain, is to make it a self-sufficient resort should the weather close people in or the narrow access roads become blocked with snow - a not uncommon problem. The commercial center will have a clinic; a complete range of shops including fashionable boutiques, sports-equipment shop, hairdresser, restaurants and snack bar; and a cinema seating 200 people. In addition to the facilities granted to apartment owners, skiers can take out a \$20,000 subscription that gives them the right to park their car and use special lockers to store ski equipment.

On weekends, about 4,000 tickets a day are issued for the lifts. About 70 percent of the estimated 12,000 skiers in Lebanon, which has six ski resorts, go to Feraya-Mzaar.

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November 6, 1995

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THE WORLD OF

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SPORTS

49ers Humbled at Home By Upstart Panthers

'Special Day' for Expansion Team

The Associated Press

Does anyone need more evidence that it's a wacky season in the NFL?

Carolina 13, San Francisco 7. Repeat: Carolina 13, San Francisco 7.

A first-year expansion team beat the Super Bowl champions on their home turf Sunday with the 5-foot-8 rookie corner-

back Tyrone Poole stripping the ball at the goal line from both Jerry Rice and John Taylor.

NFL ROUNDUP

back Tyrone Poole stripping the ball at the goal line from both Jerry Rice and John Taylor.

"We're hurting. I thought it couldn't get any worse," said safety Tim McDonald of San Francisco, whose third loss in four games put them at 5-4 and makes next week's showdown in Dallas more like a survival game.

"It seems like one of the more improbable things to come in as a rookie and beat the world champions on their home turf," said Kerry Collins, the Panthers' rookie quarterback.

Carolina's only touchdown came from an ex-49er, Tim McKeever, who returned an interception of an Elvis Grbac pass 96 yards, one of five turnovers by the Niners, leading to all of the Panthers' points. Carolina also got field goals of 39 and 47 yards from John Kasay, both after fumbles following catches by Rice and Brent Jones.

Those more than negated Derek Loville's one-yard TD run in the fourth quarter for San Francisco's only score.

"This is a very special day for us," said Carolina's coach, Dom Capers.

Said Rice: "You've got to get used to winning. You've got to get used to losing. We're not going to get used to losing."

Seattle's 30, Giants 28: Todd Peterson kicked three field goals, including the winner from 32 yards with 1:27 left, to give Seattle, playing at home, its first victory in

five games. Brad Daluiso missed a 48-yard field-goal attempt for the Giants as time ran out after New York rallied from a 21-3 deficit.

Dolphins 24, Chargers 14: In San Diego, Dan Marino, the Dolphins quarterback, threw for 291 yards and two touchdowns as Miami took revenge for last year's 22-21 playoff loss. Marino needs just 38 yards to pass Fran Tarkenton (47,003 yards) for first place on the NFL's career list.

After Stan Humphries tied the game at 14 with a 50-yard touchdown pass to Tony Martin and a two-point conversion pass to Mark Seay late in the third period, Marino led Miami on a drive that set up Pete Stoyanovich's 36-yard field goal.

Chris Singleton's interception set up Keith Byars' one-yard run for the clinching score.

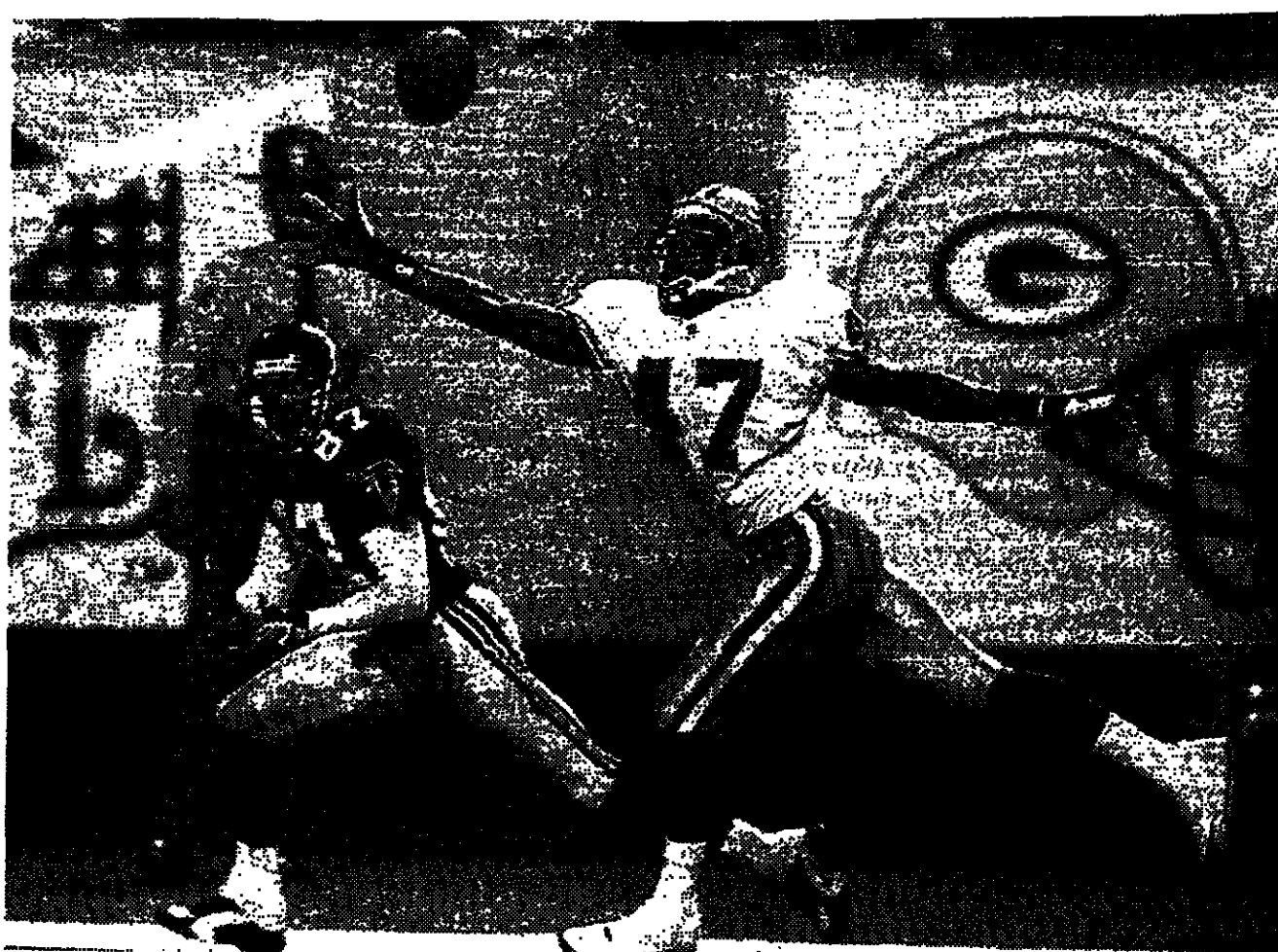
Steelers 37, Bears 6: Neil O'Donnell threw a 10-yard fourth-down touchdown pass to Ernie Mills with 1:06 left in regulation. Norm Johnson then kicked a 24-yarder in overtime to give Pittsburgh its first win in 13 trips to Soldier Field.

O'Donnell passed for 341 yards and Eric Pegrum scored three touchdowns for Pittsburgh. Erik Kramer had three touchdown passes for the Bears, whose four-game winning streak ended.

Chiefs 24, Redskins 3: At Arrowhead Stadium, the Chiefs held visiting Washington to 201 yards. Coincidentally, Steve Bono threw for 201 yards for the Chiefs, including a 19-yard touchdown to Willie Davis, and Marcus Allen scored for the 101st time in his professional career.

Raiders 20, Bengals 17: At Riverfront Stadium in Cincinnati, Harvey Williams rushed for 134 yards and a touchdown for Oakland. The defense held the Bengals to just one touchdown on a four-yard pass to Carl Pickens from Jeff Blake with 35 seconds left.

Bills 16, Colts 10: A 51-yard touchdown



The Atlanta Falcons receiver Bert Emanuel, left, watching Ryan McNeil of the Detroit Lions tip a pass out of reach.

In games reported in earlier editions Monday:

Saints 19, Rams 10: In New Orleans, Doug Brien signed last week, kicked field goals of 35, 26, 47 and 42 yards for the Saints, who won for the third time in four games.

It was the fourth loss in five games for St. Louis.

Falcons 34, Lions 22: The Falcons took over first place in the NFC West as Jeff George threw for 362 yards.

Alton Montgomery made a 71-yard interception return for a score as Atlanta, playing at home, built a 34-7 lead and withstood a late rally by Detroit.

Patriots 20, Jets 7: New England won Bill Parcells' way at New York as Curtis Martin ran for 170 yards on 34 carries, including touchdowns of two and nine yards.

Others 37, Browns 10: It was like a home game for Houston as a Cleveland crowd made sure by the imminent announcement of the Browns' move to Baltimore watched Chris Chandler throw for two touchdowns and run for another.

Vikings 27, Packers 24: Linebacker Ed Brady's interception set up a drive that led to Fead Revez' winning field goal in Minnesota's defeat of Green Bay as time expired at Minneapolis' Metrodome.

Dvorak Leads Florida's Rout Of Tampa Bay

The Associated Press

Rookie Radak Dvorak scored two goals and Florida continued its domination of state rival Tampa Bay with a 4-1 victory in Miami.

John Vanbiesbrouck lost a chance at his 22nd shutout for the Panthers when the Lightning scored with 4:32 to play to make it 3-1 Sunday night. Johann Garpenlov converted the rebound for the first Florida

NHL ROUNDUP

goal, Dvorak scored the second from a rebound in the crease and made it 3-0 in the third period with yet another rebound goal against Darren Puppa.

Jets 4, Sabres 3: Darren Turcotte scored with 1:09 to play to give Winnipeg its first victory in Buffalo since January 1987.

While twisting, Turcotte first-timed a loose puck past Dominik Hasek for his fifth goal of the season. Donald Audette's first goal of the season for the Sabres tied the game 4:47 into the third period.

Flyers 6, Whalers 1: Mikael Renberg ended a three-game scoring drought with two goals as Philadelphia snapped a three-game winless streak. Renberg also added an assist, while linemate John LeClair had a goal and two assists. Hartford, after starting the season with four straight victories, is 1-6-1 over its last eight.

Mighty Ducks 6, Devils 1: The Mighty Ducks tied a club record with their fourth straight victory as Paul Kariya had a goal and two assists and Garry Valk scored Anaheim's first shorthanded goal of the season. Shaun Van Allen, Oleg Tverdovsky, Mike Sillinger and Chad Kilger also scored against the NHL's best defensive team to help secure Anaheim's fifth consecutive home win and New Jersey's fourth loss in six games.

Avalanche 7, Blackhawks 3: Joe Sakic had two goals and three assists to help Colorado extend its winning streak to a franchise-record eight games.

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL													
NFL STANDINGS													
AMERICAN CONFERENCE					NFC								
TEAM	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA	TEAM	W	L	T	Pct.	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	0	0	.667	208	108	San Francisco	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Atlanta	3	3	0	.500	228	147	Carolina	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Indianapolis	3	3	0	.500	172	155	New York	3	4	0	.429	172	155
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Denver	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Seattle	3	4	0	.429	172	155
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Philadelphia	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Seattle	3	4	0	.429	172	155
San Francisco	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Washington	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Seattle	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Philadelphia	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Washington	3	3	0	.500	172	155	San Francisco	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Philadelphia	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Seattle	3	4	0	.429	172	155
San Francisco	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Washington	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Seattle	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Philadelphia	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Washington	3	3	0	.500	172	155	San Francisco	3	4	0	.429	172	155
Philadelphia	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Seattle	3	4	0	.429	172	155
San Francisco	3	3	0	.500	172	155	Washington	3	4	0			

ART BUCHWALD

TV's Word Games

WASHINGTON — Something I find fascinating about our human condition is the way the "F" word keeps cropping up more and more in polite society. In many cases it has replaced the greeting, "Long time no see."

According to Professor John Stacek of Georgetown University, the word is probably of Old Norse origin, and in those days it meant "to strike." Unfortunately in these perilous times it has taken on a different connotation.

The "F" word is now playing big on TV. All you have to do is hit your clicker, and you will hear men and women using the word either in humor or anger.

Anton Holden, a Professor of Curious at Barnard Tech, has been studying the rise of "F" word usage in modern communication.

He explained to me, "Our studies show that the word occurs in all kinds of situations. Originally the word was considered to be fit only for the lower class, but now the upper classes use it to prove that they're just one of the guys."

I said, "I notice that Whoopi Goldberg, Billy Crystal, Robin Williams are championing the word on HBO."

Holden responded, "It's a sure way of getting a laugh. Whenever a comedian senses he is in trouble, he invokes the 'F' word. Unfortunately, the more comics use it, the duller their routines become. Cable television is full of the word. Everyone from tough hit men to politicians seem to blurt it out

when they have nothing else to say."

"Do you have any idea why it has become so popular in our culture?" I asked.

"The 'F' word is one usually associated with anger. This is surprising since the act itself is not ordinarily an angry one. The word is rarely used alone unless you hit your thumb with a hammer. Our research further indicates that writers insert it into movie scripts to make their characters sound macho. How many times have we gone to the cinema to find the heroes and the villains do nothing but hurl the 'F' word at each other during automobile chases?"

I agreed with Holden. "I also notice that respectable magazines and even newspapers are using the word. Oddly enough the shock value of the word is greater in print than when it is spoken."

"Why do you think we laugh when we hear it?"

"There is something subversive about saying it, so the laughter is a cover for our embarrassment. Remember the utterance of the 'F' word is one of the first that causes a parent to wash out a child's mouth with soap."

I said, "I think that the 'F' word is like the nuclear bomb. Once you say it, there is nothing else left to say."

"Precisely," said Anton. "If it is employed for some minor situation, then when you really use it, it has more impact."

"Yet, if we forbid people to use it, we would get into a freedom-of-speech issue."

"You're right," Holden said. "Our only hope is that people will tire of it, and it will become as meaningless as telling someone to 'Have a nice day.'"

By John Darnton
New York Times Service

LONDON — Looking somewhat disheveled and with his hair unkempt during a visit to America last summer, Jonathan Pryce was browsing in a store on the East Coast when he was recognized by another customer.

But not as Hamlet or Macbeth or the Tony Award-winning Engineer in "Miss Saigon" or Fagin in the smash revival of "Oliver!" on the West End. He was spotted as the suave British pitchman for Nissan's luxury Infiniti in television commercials.

"Amazing how much better people look on television," the customer muttered, shaking his head at the seedy figure before him.

That kind of misbegotten fame may not be possible in America for Pryce after the film "Carrington" opens. The 48-year-old actor's portrayal of Lytton Strachey, the aesthete and essayist who was a lesser light in London's Bloomsbury group in the 1920s, already won him the best-actor award at the Cannes film festival last spring. The film may propel Pryce to stardom the way "Silence of the Lambs" gave a late-career thrust to a fellow Welshman, Anthony Hopkins.

In countries where the film has already played — France, Italy, Argentina and especially Britain — Emma Thompson has won praise for her Dora Carrington, the androgynous, unconventional painter who falls in love with Strachey, a homosexual.

But in the film, nearly all eyes are on Pryce. He moves with such precision under a sun hat and behind a thicket of ginger beard, lifting an eyebrow slightly, rolling his long fingers with a languid wave of the hand, conveying a febrile passion under a perfectly controlled exterior — a personification of the Victorian duality Strachey was trying to smother with his writing — that he dominates the screen even when he is not on it. He is Lytton Strachey.

"If I were sitting here with a big red beard on, you would probably think you were sitting with him," Pryce said recently, leaning over a table in a Soho restaurant. "There are elements of his physicality that take over, the use of his hands — there!" he exclaimed, in a false double take as his hands began to unroll like a magician's. He paused. "The beauty of it is that hardly anybody knows what Strachey was really like, so you can provide the essence of the man and there's still enough left for the imagination to work on."

The secret, Pryce said, was forging a connection with the character. "You can externalize certain things about yourself emotionally," the actor explained, "but there were so many aspects of his character that I felt sympathetic with. It's easy to identify one's doubts with him, as he was constantly voicing his doubts of himself as a writer."

Pryce has played Sam Lowry, the clerk at the center of Terry Gilliam's futuristic nightmare, "Brazil," in 1985; a small part in Martin Scorsese's "Age of Innocence," and a potential client in David Mamet's "Glengarry Glen Ross."



Jonathan Pryce in his award-winning portrayal of Lytton Strachey in "Carrington."

off a bit," he acknowledged in a deft blend of modesty and pride.

"My job essentially was to concentrate on Jonathan for nine weeks, and it was enjoyable," Thompson said. "When we did Lytton's death, there was this tremendous feeling of bereavement, even though we were only pretending."

Pryce came to acting "by default." He was born to a lower-middle-class family in the small town of Holywell in North Wales. His father had been a coal miner who married a shopkeeper's daughter and then joined her in running a grocery store.

Pryce went to a state school, then studied art for five years. "However good I was at painting and drawing," he said, "it was never as good as I wanted to be. Then when I started acting in student and amateur productions, people for the first time were saying they really liked what I did. I never knew what it was they liked; I just enjoyed doing it."

He won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, then joined the Liverpool Everyman Theater Company and eventually the Nottingham Playhouse under Richard Eyre, now the director of the National Theatre.

His break came in playing the punk role in Trevor Griffiths' "Comedians" in 1975, which went to the Old Vic and then moved to Broadway under the direction of Mike Nichols. He won both a Tony and a passport out of regional theater.

Among all the classical roles Pryce has played are two that gained him the reputation of being, as Eyre put it, "the most dangerous actor around." One was an unforgettable Petruchio in the Royal Shakespeare Company's modern-dress version of "The Taming of the Shrew"; he rode on stage on a motorcycle. The other was his famous Hamlet, done for Eyre at the Royal Court.

It was, literally, gut-wrenching. Pryce and Eyre decided to play Hamlet as demagogically possessed. The ghost appeared, not on stage, but in Hamlet's mind.

"We had to do the play a little," Pryce said. "Instead of having the ghost speak to me, I was possessed by, literally possessed by, the spirit of my father." Learning from observing people undergoing fits and speaking in tongues, he uttered his father's lines in "belly speaking" so that the story of Claudius's murder was vomited up.

One gets the impression that Pryce, with a velvety voice and deep, sad eyes, still has the best roles ahead of him. And if he's not courting fame, at least he's not rejecting it.

POSTCARD

Life in the Slow Lane: Ghost Towns of the Plains

By Thomas Heath
Washington Post Service

ANSELMO, Nebraska — The elementary and high school is a pile of twisted steel and smashed concrete on a shaded corner of this town, yards from the cornfields that bump up against backyards. The only signs of children are rotting swing sets and teeter-totters that haven't been used in years.

A gust sweeps off the prairie and through main street's withered business district. The Boot Hill Bar beckons motorists to "Play Keno" with three-foot letters painted by an untrained hand. A faded "Sew and So" sign is tacked to the front of an empty building. The bank is now a café, where an 80-year-old couple sells \$3 fried chicken dinners. In the corner of the library window is a poster advertising an forthcoming television documentary: "Fate of the Plains."

"This is the slow lane," says Mayor George Kellogg, a retired conductor for the Union Pacific railroad.

This is Anselmo, one of hundreds of upper Great Plains towns riding the same slow fade toward extinction as the rotary telephone. The population is emptying out of this vast region because astonishing advances in agriculture production have rendered most farm jobs unnecessary. So the communities where the farmhands once shopped and lived are dying.

"The Great Plains is creating a new era of ghost towns," says Colleen Murphy, senior fellow at the Center for the New West, a Denver-based think tank.

Anselmo is near the middle of the state, between two ways of life. To the north and west are the Sand Hills, a region of cattle ranches. To the south and east are the richer, flatter, corn-growing farms that stretch 500 miles (800 kilometers) away to Illinois.

This village was once a commerce center and railroad stop, but now the only regular signs of industry are the coal trains that blow through town every 15 minutes, making their way from open pits in Gillette, Wyoming, to power plants to the east and south.

The lawyers, doctors, hardware stores and banks departed in the last several decades and are now a 20-minute to two-hour drive to the south. There isn't an automated teller machine for miles.

All but nine of Nebraska's 93 counties have a median population age above the national median of 32.9. For example, the median age in Custer County, where Anselmo is located, is 39.1, according to statistics from the Nebraska state government. Of the 65 inhabited houses in Anselmo, about half have families. The rest belong to middle-aged or elderly people who rely on Social Security checks and Medicare.

WEATHER

Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Europe	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Algeria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Andorra	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Austria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Bulgaria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Croatia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Czech Rep.	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Denmark	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Estonia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Finland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
France	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Germany	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Greece	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Hungary	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Ireland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Italy	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Latvia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Lithuania	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Malta	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Netherlands	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Norway	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Poland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Portugal	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Romania	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Slovakia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Slovenia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Spain	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Sweden	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Switzerland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Turkey	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Ukraine	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
United Kingdom	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Yugoslavia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57

Asia	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Algeria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Andorra	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Austria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Bulgaria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Croatia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Czech Rep.	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Denmark	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Estonia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Finland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
France	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Germany	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Greece	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Hungary	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Ireland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Italy	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Latvia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Lithuania	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Malta	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Netherlands	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Norway	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Poland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Portugal	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Romania	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Slovakia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Slovenia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Spain	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Sweden	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Switzerland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Turkey	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Ukraine	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
United Kingdom	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Yugoslavia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57

Latin America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low
Algeria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Andorra	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Austria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Bulgaria	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Croatia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Czech Rep.	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Denmark	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Estonia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Finland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
France	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Germany	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Greece	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Hungary	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Ireland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Italy	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Latvia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Lithuania	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Malta	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Netherlands	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Norway	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Poland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Portugal	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Romania	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Slovakia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Slovenia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Spain	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Sweden	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Switzerland	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Turkey	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Ukraine	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
United Kingdom	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57
Yugoslavia	21/19	14/57	22/71	14/57	22/71	14/57

TWO foreign nationals writing in French were jointly awarded the Prix Médicis 1995 on Monday. The Russian writer Andrei Makine and Vassilis Alexakis of Greece shared the top prize for, respectively, "Le Testament français" (The French Testament) and "La Langue maternelle" (The Mother Tongue). Makine, 38, has lived in France for eight years, and Alexakis, 50, has lived between Paris and Athens since 1968. The Médicis prize for a foreign book went to Alessandro Baricco of Italy for "Les Châteaux de la colère" (The Castles of Anger). The Prix Femina 1995, chosen by an all-women jury, was awarded to Emmanuel Carrère for "La Classe de neige" (The Snow Class). The Dutch writer Jeroen Brouwers won the Femina prize awarded to a foreign novelist, for "Rouge décanie" (Decanted Red).

A book disputing last year's best-seller "The Private Life of Chairman Mao" will be published soon, according to two newspapers in Hong Kong, which carried extracts. "The Private Life of Chairman Mao," written by Mao Zedong's physician, Li Zhisui, said the late chairman had many mistresses and believed that sex with them would prolong his life. The new book was written by three Chinese, two of whom are said to have been members of Mao's medical staff and the third his English teacher.

Howard Stern has Miss America pageant officials pretty peeved with plans to call his new book "Miss America," complete with a cover photo of Stern in drag. Lawyers for the pageant wrote the book's publisher, HarperCollins, to say that the shock jock infringes on the pageant's good name and contains "photographs that have been called tasteless." But Judith Regan, his editor, said Stern "makes a living doing social satire and parody — that's what he does on the radio and in this book."

For most of the two years since he defected from NBC to CBS, David Letterman has routinely beaten Jay Leno and "The Tonight Show" in the nightly ratings. But in the past three months, an enormous swing has taken place: Now "Tonight" routinely beats "Late Show With David Letterman." Letterman's instant success at CBS created a momentum that overwhelmed Leno, who found himself declaring that the competition in late